

## **Newspaper Clips**

### **July 28, 2016**

#### **IITs of Goa and Dharwad to begin classes on Aug 1**

<http://indianexpress.com/article/education/iits-of-go-and-dharwad-to-begin-classes-2939490/>

Union minister for Human Resource Development will inaugurate IIT Goa on July 30 and IIT Dharwad on July 31.

TWO OF the six new Indian Institutes of Technology (IIT) will begin classes early next week, under the mentorship of IIT, Bombay (IIT-B).

Union minister for Human Resource Development will inaugurate IIT Goa on July 30 and IIT Dharwad on July 31. Those admitted to the first batches of these colleges will begin attending classes on August 1.

The two new IITs will be mentored by IIT Bombay. "Currently, IIT Bombay is running both the institutes. Faculty from Mumbai will be taking classes at the new institutes," said Devang Khakhar, Director of IIT-B.

He said IIT-B, one of the most sought-after IITs, will soon start the recruitment process.

"For now, we are running both the institutes. Once the new directors are appointed for both the institutes, we will gradually hand over the administration to them. Thereafter, we will only provide assistance when required," said Khakhar.

The IIT Goa has admitted 30 students each into its Computer Science, Electrical and Mechanical Engineering streams. With 40 students admitted to each of the three streams, the institute at Dharwad has a higher intake.

Since both the institutes are yet to get new campuses, the classes will be held in spaces allotted to them in other colleges. A 560-acre IIT Dharwad campus and a 300-acre IIT Goa campus will be completed in a couple of years.

Meanwhile, IIT Goa will conduct classes in Goa Engineering College. Students of IIT Dharwad will share the campus of the Water and Land Management Institute (WALMI). Students will have to share the academic blocks and hostel facilities with these colleges.

#### **Two IITs outline the smart city plan for Varanasi**

<http://indianexpress.com/article/india/india-news-india/iit-kharagpur-bhu-outline-smart-city-plan-for-banaras-varanasi-modi-constituency-elections-2939534/>

IIT Kharagpur has been carrying out a research survey in the city since 2014, under the HRD Ministry's Sandhi project which conducts scientific evaluation of the country's heritage.

The Centre has roped in Indian Institute of Technology, Kharagpur and Indian Institute of Technology (Banaras Hindu University) to redevelop Prime Minister Narendra Modi's constituency, Varanasi, into a smart city. The institutes have been tasked with chalking out a plan to renovate the holy city while preserving its heritage.

IIT Kharagpur has been carrying out a research survey in the city since 2014, under the HRD Ministry's Sandhi project which conducts scientific evaluation of the country's heritage. The programme has now been linked to the government's smart city plan. Professors involved in the project say that the research being carried out in Varanasi, and the road map thus created, will be used as a blueprint for all future smart cities in the country.

12 departments within IIT Kharagpur, including architecture, civil, geology and geophysics, computer science and electronics, electrical and mechanical and the RCG School of Infrastructure Design and Management, are working on the project. The institutes have also collaborated with Varanasi Nagar Nigam.

“We are developing an overall action plan. One of the sub-projects that we have begun work on is under the Uchatara Abhiyan and involves the complete pedestrianisation of certain areas in the city,” says Professor Joy Sen, of the RCG School of Infrastructure Design and Management, who is heading the project.

Varanasi is one of the oldest cities in the world alongside Alexandria, Luxor and Faiyum and the planning is “sensitive”, says the team.

“We are looking at how the city has evolved and survived for 3,000 years. Geo-exploration is an important part of the project. We are using sub-surface data to look at how the city will survive in the future. For this we have dug out 91 borewells and collected 6,000 kg of sediment samples down to a depth of 100 meters,” says principal investigator Professor Abhijeet Mukherjee from IIT Kharagpur’s Geology and Geophysics department. “The samples will help in determining engineering properties and the kind of construction that would be permissible,” he adds.

“Most modern cities don’t last longer than 300-400 years. Varanasi has lasted for 3,000. Archeologists in the team have been carrying out excavations and we have for the first time established that the city existed between 800-1000 BC. The team has found material dating back to two thousand years in and around the Kashi Vishwanath temple. As the Harappan civilization declined, Varanasi came up,” explains Prof Mukherjee.

The team is working on a plan that accommodates modern development projects such as the metro rail and sub-way systems into the city’s landscape, while preserving its ancient heritage.

“The city’s future development will depend on the sustainable use of natural (groundwater) resources, mitigation of flooding hazard and an understanding of the river dynamics and how these may evolve in response to future climate change,” notes Mukherjee. To facilitate the research the team is carrying out extensive surveys of the Ganga as well as the groundwater available in the city, including the level of contamination and pollution.

Sampling of water from the Ganga at “12 strategic ghats” has been going on for the past one-and-a-half years. Every Sunday, a sample of water is taken from each of these ghats and examined.

Recently, along with Intel Industries, the professors have placed chemical sensors in the water, which transmits back data every 15-20 minutes. “The government has been concerned about the quality of water in Varanasi. At some point in the future we will be able to present the data on display boards in the city. This will give visitors the option of choosing the ghats they want to visit based on the data provided,” says the professor.

## **CENTRE FOR SCIENCE AND HAPPINESS AT IIT KHARAGPUR**

<http://paper.hindustantimes.com/epaper/viewer.aspx>

IIT Kharagpur is planning to set up a Centre for Science of Happiness to promote science and practice of positivity for fostering meaningful life, the Lok Sabha has been informed. Minister of state for HRD Mahendra Nath Pandey said the proposal was received from IIT Kharagpur alumni Satinder Singh Rekhi and the Centre’s vision is to promote science and practice of positivity for fostering meaningful life, happiness, wellbeing and holistic self-development by bringing together various disciplines ranging from psychology, management to engineering. A team of IIT Kharagpur faculty members has been identified for developing the courses and programmes of the proposed centre, he said in a written reply. IIT Kharagpur has informed that the Centre proposes to have some courses for the UG and PG students of the institute and

it will also offer training programmes and certificate courses as per norms, he said. "Rekhi has agreed to set up a seed endowment fund and has transferred an initial amount of `60 lakh to plan the centre. Detailed funding requirement will be known after the detailed plan is made by the institute," he said. The development comes close on the heels of Madhya Pradesh government setting up a Ministry of Happiness' to measure happiness quotient of its citizens.

## **Foreign students aware of IITs; then why are IIT teams going for awareness visits abroad?**

<http://www.pagalguy.com/articles/foreign-students-aware-of-iits-then-why-are-iit-teams-going-45466742>

Ever since news of JEE being conducted in foreign countries spread, the MHRD released notifications of the co-ordinating institute for the programme, and the fee structure for foreign students. It was also stated in a recent notification that IIT teams, headed by IIT Bombay (the coordinating institute) will be travelling to various countries to create awareness about studying in India.

According to the Institute Secretary for International Relations, IIT Bombay, "Students in foreign countries want to take admission in IITs. The introduction of an entrance exam in these countries is thus solving that demand." But if there is already a demand for admission opportunities to IITs in the foreign countries, then why are IIT teams conducting awareness drives? As of now, there are no special plans carved as to how the IITs will go about attracting more foreign applicants for the JEE next year. The IITB Institute Secretary, says, "We will first set up a couple of JEE centres in the main areas of various countries to see how any students come forward to register or inquire. We need to know how many people are aware of the JEE and IITs in these countries. Only then can we plan something further."

Moreover, the MHRD notification states that only eligible candidates in foreign countries will be allowed to take the entrance exam; but it hasn't mentioned what criterion would determine the eligibility of the students. (See image below) Most IITs have pre-set procedures for admission of foreign students to their institute, such as providing recommendation letters and TOEFL scores. However, with the introduction of JEE in some countries, it is still unclear if the IITs will do away with these criteria. "This can only be determined after we visit the countries and have a rough number of prospective applicants. If the applicant count is too high, then we will probably need a second filtering mechanism," said the Dean of International Relations, IIT Bombay.

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### **IIT Admission Exams in Foreign Countries**

New Delhi, July 25<sup>th</sup>, 2016

With a view to improve the international standing of the Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs), the IIT Council has decided to provide opportunity for the eligible foreign students to study in the IITs. For this purpose, it has been decided to focus on the neighbouring countries like Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Nepal, Bhutan, Maldives, Singapore, UAE and Ethiopia. Under this initiative, JEE (advanced) exam will be conducted in these countries and eligible foreign students would be given opportunity to take the exam. Only such candidates who qualify in this exam would be offered admission to study in the IITs subject to the following:

JEE 2017 is scheduled to be held in Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Nepal, Bhutan, Maldives, Singapore, UAE and Ethiopia.

## **MHRD Extends last date for Submitting Views/Suggestions on New Education Policy**

<http://www.enaindia.in/news/newsdetails/policy/acts-regulations/mhrd-extends-last-date-for-submitting-viewsuggestions-on-new-education-policy>

Union Ministry of Human Resource Development (HRD) has extended the last date for the submission of views or suggestions on the New Education Policy to August 16, 2016 instead of the earlier date of July 31, 2016.

The report of the New Education Policy has already been submitted by the head of New Education Policy committee T. S. R. Subramanian, and the same has been released by the National University of Educational Planning and Administration (NUEPA) through its website.

HRD Ministry in addition to extending the last date, has also put on its website "Some Inputs for Draft National Education Policy 2016" document that contains several recommendations of the committee in a brief form for public knowledge.

Commenting on the New Education Policy, Minister of Union Ministry of HRD Prakash Javadekar said that, since the last new education policy was made in the year 1992 so it is important that the a good new education policy is made that has the capability to take the country forward.

In addition to this HRD Minister Javadekar also denied that the New Education Policy has made any suggestion for morning prayers, and he termed such reports as false.

Further information can be accessed by visiting the link [http://mhrd.gov.in/sites/upload\\_files/mhrd/files/nep.pdf](http://mhrd.gov.in/sites/upload_files/mhrd/files/nep.pdf).

Nai Duniya ND 28.07.2016 P-07

## **सुपर 30 करेंगे आईआईटी की तैयारी**

### **झाबुआ। ब्यूरो (मप्र)**

इस साल आईआईटी के लिए कई छात्रों का चयन होने से आदिवासी विकास विभाग भी उत्साहित है। इनमें से कई को सरकारी स्कूलों में सरकारी स्तर पर कोचिंग दी गई थी। बच्चों के फॉर्म भरने से लेकर परीक्षा की तैयारी तक मदद की गई। अब काउंसलिंग में भी सहायता की जा रही है।

अब आईआईटी में और ज्यादा छात्रों के चयन का लक्ष्य लेकर प्लानिंग की जा रही है। इसके तहत सभी ब्लॉक के उत्कृष्ट स्कूलों में सुपर 30 क्लासेस चलाई जाएगी। इसके लिए ब्लॉक में दसवीं के टॉपर 30 लड़के और 30 लड़कियों को चुना जाएगा। स्कूल टाइम

के अलावा स्पेशल क्लास चलाकर उन्हें तैयारी कराई जाएगी।

इसी कार्ययोजना को लेकर सोमवार को सहायक आयुक्त आदिवासी विकास के साथ खंड शिक्षा अधिकारियों और उत्कृष्ट स्कूलों के प्राचार्यों की बैठक हुई। इसमें इसे लेकर जानकारी और निर्देश दिए गए। उत्कृष्ट प्राचार्यों से कहा गया कि वो अपने-अपने क्षेत्र के ऐसे बच्चों को सुपर 30 में शामिल करें, जिनमें आईआईटी में शामिल होने की संभावना दिखाई देती हो। रामा से ये समस्या बताई गई कि वहां गणित में इतने बच्चे नहीं हैं। उनसे कहा गया कि जीव विज्ञान वालों को भी शामिल कर सकते हैं।

Navbharat Times ND 28.07.2016 P-14

# हाई रैंक स्टूडेंट रह गए मायूस

## कम रैंक में भी कुछ को मिल गई IIT में सीट

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■ नई दिल्ली : आईआईटी और एनआईटी में एडमिशन पाने के लिए स्टूडेंट्स के बीच की होड़ में इस बार कई हाई रैंक स्टूडेंट्स बिना सीट रह गए जबकि कई ऐसे स्टूडेंट्स को आईआईटी और एनआईटी में एडमिशन मिल गया जिनकी रैंक काफी पीछे है। काउंसिलिंग के बाद आईआईटी में ही 73 सीटें खाली हैं।

**10 हजार रैंक में भी एडमिशन :** आईआईटी में 10 हजार से भी ज्यादा रैंक होने पर भी एडमिशन मिला है। जॉइंट सीट अलोकेशन बोर्ड (जोसा) के मुताबिक आईआईटी खड़गपुर में 10310 और रुड़की में 10422 रैंक वाले स्टूडेंट को एडमिशन मिला है। एनआईटी मिजोरम में भी 10,74,213 रैंक और सिक्किम में 9,79,418 रैंक वाले स्टूडेंट्स भी एडमिशन लेने में सफल रहे हैं।

**73 सीटें खाली :** काउंसिलिंग के बाद आईआईटी में 73 सीटें खाली हैं जिनमें 38 आईआईटी बीएचयू में, भुवनेश्वर में 4, खड़गपुर में 7, मद्रास और रुड़की में 3-3 सीट भी शामिल हैं। आईआईटी बॉम्बे, दिल्ली, कानपुर, हैदराबाद, मंडी, गोवा में कोई सीट खाली नहीं है। एनआईटी में 1,518 सीट खाली हैं। आईआईटी बीएचयू में जनरल कैटेगरी में ओपनिंग रैंक 500 (कंप्यूटर साइंस एंड इंजीनियरिंग) तो क्लोजिंग रैंक 9873 (फार्मास्युटिकल्स) है। आईआईटी भुवनेश्वर में ओपनिंग रैंक 1497 (कंप्यूटर साइंस एंड इंजीनियरिंग) तो क्लोजिंग रैंक 8482 (मैटलर्जिकल एंड मटीरियल्स इंजीनियरिंग), आईआईटी मद्रास में ओपनिंग रैंक 62 (कंप्यूटर साइंस एंड इंजीनियरिंग) और क्लोजिंग रैंक 9353 (बायोलॉजिकल साइंस) रही।

**स्कॉलरशिप के लिए डेट बढ़ी**  
सरकार ने राज्यों के अनुरोध पर नेशनल स्कॉलरशिप के लिए अप्लाई करने की आखिरी तारीख 31 अगस्त तक बढ़ा दी है।



### IIT का अधिकतम क्लोजिंग रैंक

खड़गपुर	- 10310
रुड़की	- 10422
बीएचयू	- 9873
मद्रास	- 9353
पटना	- 7891
इंदौर	- 7732

### NIT का अधिकतम क्लोजिंग रैंक

मिजोरम	- 10,74,213
सिक्किम	- 9,79,418
मणिपुर	- 4,59,666
अगरतला	- 2,82,713

## क्यों रही सीटें खाली

कोचिंग इंस्टीट्यूट फिटजी के डायरेक्टर आर. एल. त्रिखा कहते हैं कि स्टूडेंट्स अच्छे इंस्टीट्यूट्स के साथ अपनी पसंद की ब्रांच में एडमिशन चाहते हैं और उसमें एडमिशन न मिल पाने पर कई स्टूडेंट्स फिर दूसरी बार ट्राई करने का फैसला करते हैं। सीटें खाली रहने की एक वजह यह है कि स्टूडेंट्स ने पिछले साल की कटऑफ से तुलना कर इंस्टीट्यूट और ब्रांच की चॉइस भर दी, फिर वहां एडमिशन न मिलने पर वह दूसरे इंस्टीट्यूट या दूसरी ब्रांच में अप्लाई नहीं कर पाए। इस बार स्टूडेंट को एक ही सीट लॉक करने का ऑप्शन था। स्टूडेंट ने जो सीट लॉक की वह सीट नहीं मिलने पर वह कहीं और सीट नहीं ले पाए जबकि जिन कम रैंक के स्टूडेंट्स ने

ऐसे इंस्टीट्यूट और ब्रांच में अप्लाई किया जहां कम स्टूडेंट्स ने इंटरैस्ट दिखाया तो उन्हें सीट मिल गई। त्रिखा ने कहा कि इस बार कटऑफ में पिछली बार के मुकाबले 50 हजार और स्टूडेंट्स ऐड हुए जिससे एक बार जो सीट लॉक हो गई तो वह फिर खाली नहीं हुई इसलिए इस बार राउंड वन, टू, थ्री में कोई ज्यादा फर्क नहीं दिखा जबकि पिछली बार तक राउंड टु राउंड रैंक में काफी फर्क दिखता था। त्रिखा ने सलाह दी कि स्टूडेंट्स को चॉइस भरते वक्त हड़बड़ाहट नहीं करनी चाहिए। साथ ही पूरी तरह पिछले साल की रैंकिंग के खाके पर ही डिपेंड नहीं होना चाहिए। कई और वजहें भी प्रभावित करती हैं जिनका ध्यान रखना चाहिए और जानकारों की मदद ली जा सकती है।

Deccan Herald ND 28.07.2016 P-07

## UGC notifies online course norms

**NEW DELHI, DHNS:** The UGC has made it mandatory for all universities to bring amendments to their respective ordinances and rules by August 19 to facilitate transfer of credits of their students for the degree programmes to be offered under Swayam, a massive online open courses (Moocs) platform.

The higher education regulator has notified the UGC (Credit Framework for Online Learning Courses through Swayam) Regulation, 2016, recently to ensure that Swayam takes off soon after it is launched as the Human Resources Development Ministry races against time to complete all preparations for the roll out of India first Moocs platform



next month. The programme, which seeks to fill the gap created by the acute shortage of quality teachers in the country's higher educational institutions, is likely to be dedicated to the nation by Prime Minister Narendra Modi on August 15.

The Swayam will offer a virtual classroom to students with structured lectures by subject experts.

"An institution can only al-

low up to 20% of the total courses being offered in a particular programme in a semester through the online learning courses provided through Swayam platform," the UGC regulation stipulates.

Students, registered with the Swayam, can complete their entire programme by attending classes online and take "proctored" examinations at the end of each semester to move to the next level. For the proctored examinations, centres with adequate facilities will be opened in universities.

The credit earned by the students will be transferred to their parent university by the one conducting the programme at the Moocs platform.