

Newspaper Clips

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Times of India ND 29/07/2012 P-11

IIT Kanpur backtracks, to take part in JEE 2013

Kanpur/New Delhi: IIT Kanpur on Saturday decided to accept the common entrance based on percentile ranking as an "interim" measure only for 2013 and retain the existing eligibility condition for students who passed their board examination in 2012.

At a meeting on Saturday, IIT Kanpur senate, which was the first to reject the common entrance under a proposed format, resolved to "accept as an interim measure for JEE 2013 the IIT council's decision keeping in view the urgent need to remove uncertainties from the minds of students". For 2014 and onwards, it suggested constitution of a senate committee which will study all aspects of the admission process.

It means that the IIT K senate has accepted the compromise formula, which includes a proposal to take the top 20-30 students based on percentile ranking of respective boards for preparing the merit list.

This formula had been worked out in a meeting of the directors of all the IITs on June 23. The percentile formula, replacing the proposed format of giving weightage to board results, had also been accepted during the meeting. The controversy of whether to conduct its own entrance examination in 2013 instead of participating in the JEE, or accepting the recommendations arrived at the meeting and adopted by the IIT Council on June 27 has been settled. TNN & AGENCIES

Unlucky '13 a one-time affair?

New entrance test format may not last till 2014, a poll year

DEEPAK KUMAR JHA ■
NEW DELHI

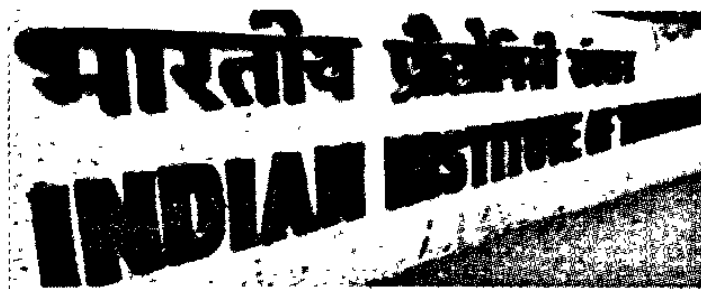
The general elections in 2014 are likely to cast a shadow on the prospects of IIT aspirants for the year. As of now, the much-hyped new common entrance test to be held in 2013 is slated to be a one-time affair, with the Government dithering on taking a call for continuing with the engineering entrance exams in 2014.

In effect, it will mean a return of the existing pattern wherein IIT-JEE and AIEEE will be held separately. Class XI students, who will be eligible to take the test in 2014, will be the most affected due to the uncertainty.

"As of now, there is no word about 2014 keeping in mind the scheduled elections between April-May 2014. The IITs may have to decide to revert to the JEE pattern as it happened till this year. While the 2015 entrance exams can be decided by the new Government, the fate of the exams in 2014 is almost uncertain and the incumbent Government is restricting itself," a top HRD Ministry official told *The Pioneer*.

However the official maintained that there should not be a problem as the 'experiment'

CHANGING PATTERNS	
Intake based on pre-university (Class 12) results	1960s
Entrance Test introduced separately by couple of IITs	1970s
More IITs; Joint Entrance Examinations introduced	1980s
Objective pattern	1990s
Objective as well as subjective	2000
AIEEE (for NIT, IIITs, CFTIs)	2002
A prelims in January followed by main in April introduced	2006
Revert to subjective method	2008
Review consultation to overhaul pattern begins	2010
One Nation One Test introduced, AIEEE scrapped	2013 (to be introduced)
Possible return of IIT-JEE & AIEEE	2014



due next year will be completely under detailed terms of reference and composition of the Joint Admission (JAB), JEE Academic, Delivery and Interface Group which will continue to deliver. "It will all depend on the conduct of the 2013 CET. Candidates should not be in dilemma about the pattern of exams because an entrance test for IIT and due weightage to Class XII results will co-exist since Council of IITs have agreed on this point forever," added the official.

Starting 2013, a single entrance examination will be held for admission into IITs,

NITs and IIITs and marks obtained in Class XII examinations by students will be taken into account. While JEE Main (just like AIEEE) will be conducted by CBSE and JEE Advanced by IITs jointly.

The selection of the candidates for the IITs and other centrally funded institutes (CFIs) would be different even as all the aspirants for year 2013 will have to go through two exams — JEE Mains (common for all like present AIEEE) followed by JEE-Advanced for entry to IIT. The new pattern has been put in to replace the present IIT-JEE

and AIEEE and that there should be one test for all engineering institutes, making it easier for the aspirants.

IIT entrance examination has seen several changes during the past four decades. Earlier the intake was based merely on Class XII results. Then entrance test was introduced. When number of applicants swelled up to over five lakh the two-tier system — prelims and main — was introduced. Owing to confusion JEE was restored. A separate AIEEE was introduced in 2002 by the CBSE for other engineering institutes.

Due to the deteriorating quality of students' intake, a new formula was devised to give considerable weightage to aspirants performance in Class 12 board results and the first exams on this pattern will be in 2013. To bring in this system, the HRD Ministry had to face an uphill task as there was opposition from within IITs.

The incumbent Minister had to face a lot of resistance during the consultation process from the IIT system before deciding to be prepared for 'One Nation One Test' theory, the HRD Ministry has decided not to burn its fingers.

Amidst the controversy, the first CET will be held in April 2013 and second in November/December 2013. This decision was taken keeping in mind that those who fail to sit in the April 2013 JEE due to unavailability of board results may appear for winter slot.

IIT-K SUGGESTS 60% ELIGIBILITY FOR SECOND TRY

Vanita Srivastava

■ vanita.shrivastava@hindustantimes.com

NEW DELHI: The IIT Kanpur on Saturday accepted the percentile-based entrance test, but just as an 'interim' measure.

The institute's senate, however, made some major recommendations. One of them was to retain the existing eligibility condition for students who passed their board examination in 2012.

It means that students who will take the exam again next year, should have minimum 60% marks in their board exams as defined by JEE 2012.

The senate also said the number of students to be short listed for JEE 2013 should be based on available data and the nature of the advanced paper. "If the advanced paper was theory-based then it will not be practical to filter 1.5 lakh students," an IIT-K professor said.

Percentile ranking gets thumbs-up from IIT-Kanpur

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ KANPUR/NEW DELHI

After IIT-Mumbai, IIT-Kanpur too on Saturday decided to accept the common entrance test based on percentile ranking. The decision was, however, taken as an "interim" measure only for 2013.

"The Senate recommended the IIT Council's decision keeping in mind the urgent need to remove uncertainties from the minds of students. There is less time gap to put forth any objections," said an official.

At a day-long Senate meeting of IIT-Kanpur — which had rejected the single entrance test format proposed by HRD Ministry in May — it was resolved to "accept as an interim measure for JEE 2013".

The Joint Admission Board is expected to meet soon to decide whether the test would be subjective or objective type

Further, it said the number of students to be filtered for the advance exam in 2013 under the new two-tier format should be decided based on the nature of the test. According to the format adopted by the IIT Council, about 1.50 lakh students are

to be screened. "The Joint Admission Board is expected to meet soon to decide whether the test would be subjective or objective type," said a faculty member of IIT-Kanpur.

Saturday's meeting was called to examine IIT Council's decision of June 27, which adopted the common entrance test under a compromise formula for admission to undergraduate programme based on percentile ranking in boards.

The senate decided that students who have passed their board exam in 2012 should be allowed to appear according to existing eligibility conditions in 2013 too. Currently, students are given two chances to clear IIT-JEE.

IIT-Bombay had resolved to keep at 50,000 the number of students who would be screened for the advance test. IIT-Kanpur's Senate, however, felt that a more broad-base decision should be taken.

IIT Kanpur accepts JEE '13 compromise formula

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI | JULY 28

SIGNALING an end to the turf war between the Union HRD Ministry and IITs over the common entrance examination for all engineering courses, IIT Kanpur senate on Saturday accepted the compromise formula for JEE 2013.

IIT Kanpur, the most vocal of the IITs in its protest against the new test, had announced it would con-

duct its own JEE in 2013. On Saturday, however, it accepted the compromise formula "as an interim measure for JEE 2013 keeping in view the urgent need to remove uncertainties from the minds of students".

The IIT, however, said that instead of allowing just the top 20 per cent 10+2 students to sit in the exam, JEE 2012 eligibility criteria should be retained, and instead of screening 1.5 lakh students for JEE Advanced,

as proposed, the decision on the number of students to be shortlisted should be based on available data and the structure and nature of IIT-JEE 2013. IIT Bombay has demanded that no more than 50,000 students should be screened for JEE Advanced.

IIT-K also called for a greater role for the senate in the admission process. "For JEE 2014 and beyond, a senate committee should be constituted that will study all aspects of the admission

process and arrive at recommendations based on sound methodological principles supported by data collected from appropriate original sources," it said.

HRD Minister Kapil Sibal had on May 28 announced a new entrance exam for admission to IITs, NITs, IIITs from 2013. This exam was to have two components — JEE Main for screening and JEE Advanced — and proposed to give 50 per cent weightage to Class XII scores at the

screening stage.

Faced with resistance from IITs, the minister on June 27 announced a compromise formula — class XII marks won't have 50 per cent weightage but an IIT aspirant must be in the top 20 per cent of his board. Besides JEE Advanced, which will be conducted by IITs alone, will decide the IIT merit list while JEE Main will only serve to screen the top 1.5 lakh students who will then appear for JEE Advanced.

IIT-KANPUR ACCEPTS COMMON TEST FOR '13

Kanpur/New Delhi: IIT-Kanpur on Saturday decided to accept the common entrance based on percentile ranking as an "interim" measure only for 2013 and retain the existing eligibility condition for students who passed their board examination in 2012.

— PTI

■ Full report on Page 4

■ 'Interim' measure only for '13 IIT-K accepts common test

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For 2014 and onwards, it suggested constitution of a senate committee which will study all aspects of the admission process and arrive at recommendations.

Further, it said the number of students to be filtered for the advance exam in 2013 under the new two-tier format should be decided based on the nature of the test. As per the format adopted by IIT Council, about 1.50 lakh students are to be screened for the advanced test.

"The Joint Admission Board is expected to meet soon to decide whether the test would be of subjective type or objective. After that we can take a view about the number of students to be screened for the advance," said a faculty member of IIT-Kanpur on Saturday.

At a meeting on Saturday, IIT-Kanpur senate, which was the first to reject the common entrance under a proposed format, resolved to "accept as an interim measure for JEE 2013 the IIT council's decision keeping in view the urgent need to remove uncertainties from the minds of students".

The meeting was called to examine IIT Council's decision of June 27 here which adopted the common entrance test under a compromise formula for admission to undergraduate pro-

"For JEE 2014 and beyond a Senate committee be constituted that will study all aspects of the admission process and arrive at recommendations"

gramme based on percentile ranking of students in their boards.

The senate decided that students who have passed out their board exam in 2012 should not be disturbed with the new format and allowed to appear as per the existing eligibility condition in 2013 also. As per the existing criteria, students are given two chances to clear the IIT-JEE.

IIT council, at its crucial meeting here on June 27, had adopted the percentile ranking system under a compromise formula, bringing to an end the deadlock between the government and the IITs which had been opposing giving weightages to board results.

Under this formula, those students will be taken into account for admission to the undergraduate programme having top 20 percentile of their respective boards.

IIT-Bombay had adopted this format at a senate meeting earlier this week but resolved to keep at 50,000 the number of students who would be screened for the advance test.

— PTI

सिंगल एंट्रेंस टेस्ट का प्रस्ताव मंजूर

आईआईटी कानपुर की एकेडमिक सीनेट बैठक में लगी मसौदे पर मुहर

● अमर उजाला ब्यूरो

कानपुर। ज्वाइंट एंट्रेंस एग्जैम (जेईई) 2013 में बदलाव के प्रस्ताव को आईआईटी कानपुर की एकेडमिक सीनेट से मंजूरी मिलने के बाद अब सिंगल एंट्रेंस टेस्ट होने का रास्ता साफ हो गया है। शनिवार को सीनेट की बैठक में सदस्यों ने इस पर मुहर लगा दी।

सीनेट ने कहा है कि मानव संसाधन विकास मंत्रालय और आईआईटी काउंसिल के नए फार्मूले के अनुसार होने वाले सिंगल एंट्रेंस टेस्ट पर वह अमल करेंगे। दरअसल यह स्क्रीनिंग टेस्ट होगा। इसमें सफल अभ्यर्थियों को एडवांस टेस्ट में शामिल होना पड़ेगा। इसका आयोजन आईआईटी करेगा। इसमें पेपर सेट करने और प्रवेश परीक्षा की पूरी प्रक्रिया आईआईटी की देखरेख में पूरी की जाएगी। एडवांस टेस्ट में सफल अभ्यर्थियों को ही देश के 16 आईआईटी, एनआईटी



ज्वाइंट एंट्रेंस
एग्जैम (जेईई)
2013 में बदलाव के
मसौदे पर राजी

और ट्रिपल आईटी संस्थानों में दाखिला मिलेगा।

आईआईटी कानपुर की 100 सदस्यों वाली एकेडमिक सीनेट ने शनिवार को छात्रों के भविष्य को देखते हुए बदलाव के सभी प्रस्ताव मान लिए हैं। निदेशक प्रोफेसर संजय गोविंद धांडे की अगुआई

2014 से एप्टीट्यूड टेस्ट कराने का सुझाव

कानपुर। आईआईटी जेईई 2013 में बदलाव का प्रस्ताव मानने वाली एकेडमिक सीनेट ने अपना रुतबा बदलने की कोशिश की है। सीनेट ने कहा है कि जेईई 2014 के बदलाव को लेकर सीनेट की विशेष कमेटी गठित की जानी चाहिए। यह कमेटी जेईई में बदलाव की पूरी प्रक्रिया का अध्ययन करे। देखे कि बदलाव का तरीका, परसेंटाइल निर्धारण, स्क्रीनिंग, एडवांस टेस्ट, छात्रों के चयन का तरीका ठीक है या नहीं। जो कमी होगी, उसे सीनेट की कमेटी दूर करेगी। शनिवार को हुई एकेडमिक सीनेट की बैठक में फिजिक्स, केमिस्ट्री और मैथमेटिक्स की परीक्षा के साथ ही 2014 से एप्टीट्यूड टेस्ट कराने का सुझाव भी दिया गया है। यह भी मांग है कि प्रवेश परीक्षा में बदलाव को लेकर ज्वाइंट एडमिशन बोर्ड (जैब) की उप समिति में सीनेट के प्रतिनिधियों को शामिल किया जाना चाहिए। इससे बदलाव में गड़बड़ी की गुंजाइश नहीं रह सकेगी।

वाली सीनेट ने कहा है कि 23 जून को नई दिल्ली में ज्वाइंट एडमिशन बोर्ड (जैब) और 27 जून को आईआईटी काउंसिल की बैठक हुई थी। इसमें हर बोर्ड (सेंट्रल एवं 42 अन्य स्टेट) बोर्ड के टॉप 20 फीसदी छात्रों को आईआईटी के सिंगल एंट्रेंस टेस्ट में बैठने की

अनुमति दी गई है। परसेंटाइल बनाने को भी कहा गया है।

इससे 2012 में इंटरमीडिएट पास करने वाले छात्रों का नुकसान होगा। उन्हें इस व्यवस्था से मुक्त रखा जाना चाहिए क्योंकि अभी तक प्रवेश परीक्षा में बैठने की अर्हता 60 फीसदी निर्धारित थी।

Space rocks are easy

FINAL FRONTIER Eric Anderson, who has launched tourists into space, now wants to mine asteroids for minerals

sundayread

Rupert Neate
 ■ letters@hindustantimes.com

For as long as he can remember Eric Anderson wanted to become an astronaut. But knew his short-sightedness would prevent him from joining Nasa. Instead, he has made it his mission to take others into space. He kick-started the space tourism industry at the age of 23 — so far his company, Space Adventures, has sent seven millionaires into space on Russian rockets.

Anderson, who developed his love of space from stargazing in the Rocky Mountains as a child, would love to go on a trip around the moon himself. But he hasn't got enough money.

However, he reckons he's worked out where he's going to make the millions needed: space, of course. Turning mineral-rich asteroids into the next frontier of mining, to be more precise.

Anderson says the asteroids, which range in size from 10 metres to 50 km, are full of expensive metals — gold, silver, diamonds.

"You have to go back to the beginning of the solar system to understand why," he says. "Asteroids were formed at the beginning of the solar system hundreds of millions of years ago — they are planetary cores, basically. The Earth has lots of these metals, but they all sink to the middle, here [on asteroids] all the super-heavy materials have sunk together."

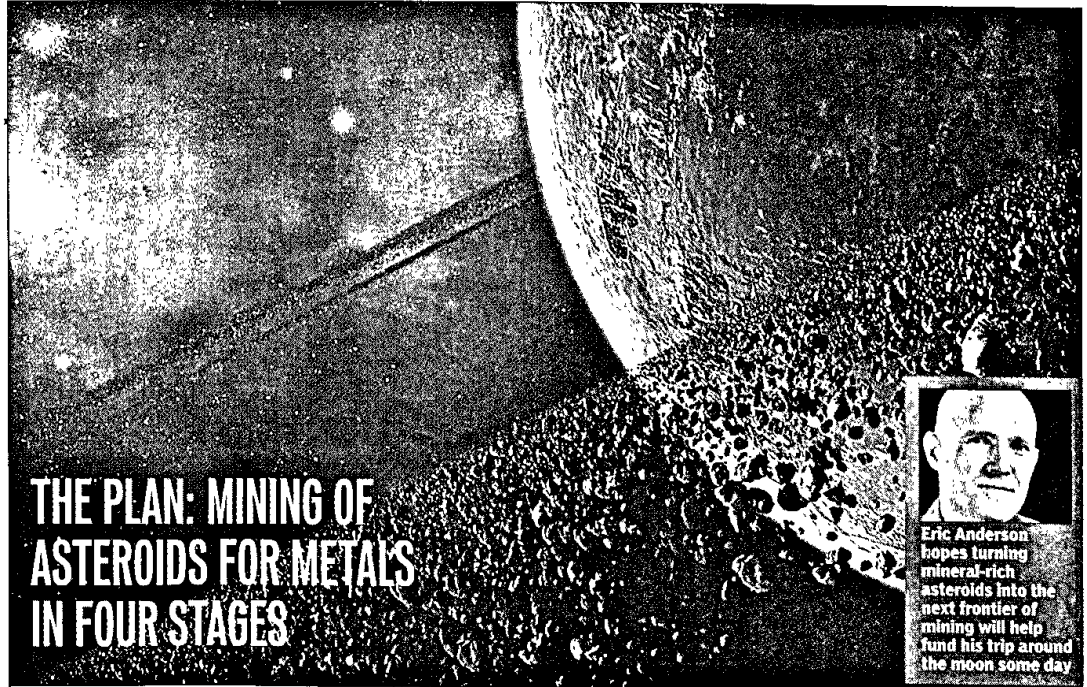
It may sound like an idea that came to him while watching Bruce Willis in Armageddon, but Anderson, who studied aerospace engineering, is serious. He has got a string of serious businessmen — including Google bosses Larry Page and Eric Schmidt, Titanic director James Cameron, and Ross Perot Jr (son of the ex-presidential candidate) — to invest in his new company, Planetary Resources. A "\$100 billion global mining company", which Anderson refuses to name, has also signed up for rights to the first minerals recovered.

He claims to have the backing of the White House for his out-of-this world plan. "You say it's impractical, but people thought it was impractical to put private citizens on rockets — and we did that," Anderson says.

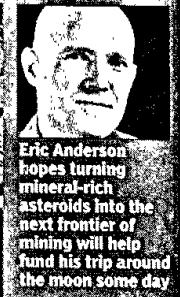
He also counters fears that bringing back cheap metals to Earth will lead to a spike in pollution. "Would you rather we dig up all the mountains on Earth to get to the last 5% left there or go to space, find a rock that's 30 million miles away, and use everything on it?" he asks. "There's no life on these objects."

Another problem his ambitious project could throw up is who owns space and its resources. Could it lead to an international fight for control as witnessed in Antarctica and the Arctic? "Nobody owns it right now," Anderson says. "If we get to it, we basically own it — that's the long and short of it."

"If you go out into the ocean and go fishing, nobody says they own all the fish in the ocean. If you build a boat and go out and catch a fish, you own it." **GUARDIAN NEWS SERVICE**



THE PLAN: MINING OF ASTEROIDS FOR METALS IN FOUR STAGES



Eric Anderson hopes turning mineral-rich asteroids into the next frontier of mining will help fund his trip around the moon some day

1 Exploring the asteroids



■ The first stage of the project — sending up hundreds of rockets with telescopes to find the best asteroids — should be underway within two years. The rockets will piggyback on Sir Richard Branson's Virgin Galactic spacecraft

■ "When we have a set of them [space telescopes], we will use them to create a constellation of telescopes which will be able to explore the near-Earth asteroids," he says

■ Anderson says the asteroids, which range in size from 10 metres to 50 km, are full of expensive metals — gold, silver, diamonds — "all the fun stuff".

2 Looking for platinum



■ Of most interest to Anderson are the asteroids' huge reserves of platinum, the world's most expensive metal

■ Though he admits it will cost "hundreds of millions of dollars" just to find the right asteroids, Anderson says the value of the platinum from just one asteroid will be enough to cover the cost of the whole project

■ Platinum prices would crash if so much is sold on the market. "If the price of platinum group metals dropped by a 100 times we would still make money. We think we can produce platinum for about \$300 an ounce."

3 Bringing the asteroids back

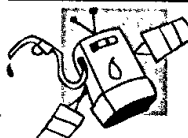


■ Anderson reckons his team of 40 mostly ex-Nasa scientists has already worked out how to reach the asteroids, but figuring out how to make the return journey will take quite some work

■ Anderson believes that his chief engineer Chris Lewicki successfully handled a far more difficult task as Nasa's former Mars mission manager

■ "Eventually we would like to bring the material back to Earth, but the very first thing we will do is use the resources on them to create fuel depots in space," he says.

4 Petrol stations in space



■ To go after asteroids deeper in space, he says ice deposits on some asteroids could be converted into rocket fuel (by breaking up water by hydrolysis) so that future space rockets can refuel and explore deep into the final frontier

■ "We'll put petrol stations up there to make it a lot easier and cheaper to explore space," he says.

■ "The fuel is basically free. We will use the sun's energy to heat it up and then when you separate it all out, you can take the metal back to Earth," he says.

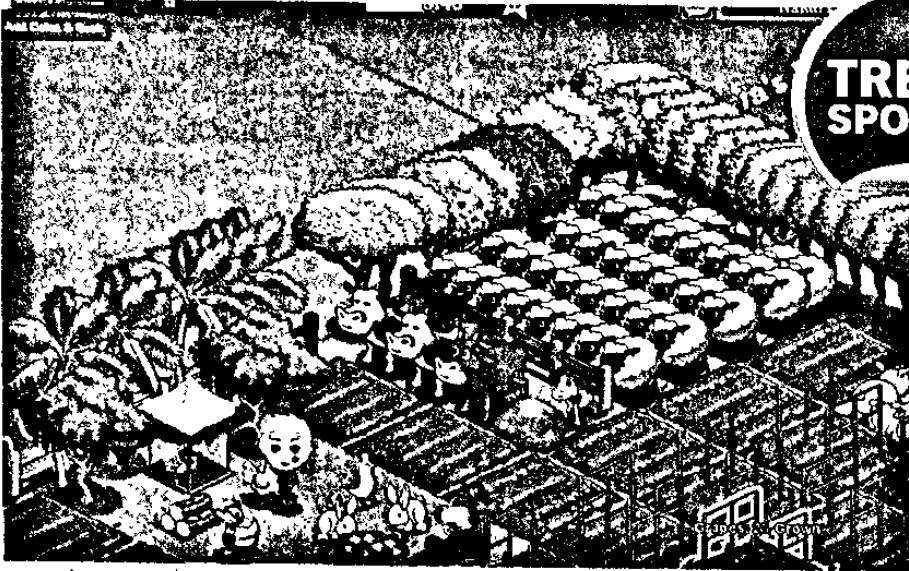
What are asteroids?

- Asteroids are small astronomical bodies that never grew large enough to become planets
- They are in orbit around the Sun
- A large majority of known asteroids orbit in the asteroid belt between the orbits of Mars and Jupiter
- However, other orbital families exist with a significant population, including near-Earth asteroids.

You say it's impractical, but people thought it was impractical to put private citizens on rockets — and we did that. —Eric Anderson

HT GRAPHIC; ICONS: ABHIMANYU SINHA

STUDENTS' CHOICE



TREND SPOTTER

graduate level are not much aware of the kind of research opportunities this field offers. Instead, most of them usually choose this field because of the wide range of career opportunities it offers, adds Balakrishnan.

He informs that computer science and engineering graduates can choose their career in different areas. They can work on web applications, computer graphics, video games, enterprise computing, embedded systems, network administration, mobile applications, computer vision, computational biology, super-computing, scientific modelling, computer security, database systems, animation, wireless network, artificial intelligence, core companies, computational skills, computer manufacturing, computer programming, bank sector, and more.

In the last few years, computer science & engineering has emerged as a popular discipline among students in IIT-Delhi. Vishakha Sharma reports

Computer science and engineering is a discipline, which is constantly aligning itself with the future, presenting intellectual challenges and developing new knowledge on a day-to-day basis. This is why, for the last few years, this branch

Delhi (IIT-Delhi). According to M Balakrishnan, professor, computer science and engineering, IIT-D, like previous years, computer science and engineering has been the most sought-after course at the undergraduate level at IIT-D in 2012 as well.

He adds, "Although there are a fixed number of seats (around 100) for all the courses on offer at IIT-D, be it civil engineering, mechanical engineering or computer science and engineering, this particular year, students with high scores have chosen to opt for computer science and engineering."

Balakrishnan attributes the discipline's popularity to research scopes (bio, mechanics, neuro-science, etc), besides good career opportunities, remuneration and challenges.

However, most students who opt for this discipline at an under-

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QUICK FACT

- CAREER OPPORTUNITIES ARE IMMENSE IN THIS FIELD

of engineering has been a favourite with an increasing number of students who have been coming to study at the Indian Institute of Technology,

"Also, there is a growing industry-demand for computer engineers. Job profiles of computer scientists and engineers exist in almost every industry. The remuneration is attractive. Though it is not true that other branches of engineering have less to offer, options as perceived by students in computer science and engineering are immense, which is why they tend to opt for the programme," he concludes.

IITians join anti-graft campaign at Jantar Mantar

chandan prakash singh

NEW DELHI, 29 JULY: Providing a mammoth support to Anna Hazare's anti-graft movement at Jantar Mantar, a large number of youth including IITians from across the country started gathering at the fast venue from early morning and expressed their discontent over the players of corruption by shouting slogans till late evening here today.

The students gathered apparently af-

modalities of the "one nation one test" idea and recommend ways to implement it across disciplines in a phased manner.

Chairman of the Scientific Advisory Council to the Prime Minister Dr CNR Rao is expected to head the committee which will have, as members, representatives from IIT faculty and IIT Council.

The move comes after the proposed single test for admission to engineering courses fell flat and the IITs blocked it seeking an add-on test for entry to their system. The new government panel will have IIT teachers as members to

Continued on page 11

ter Mr Kejriwal's call to join them in the campaign. Dr Kumar Vishwas gave youths a slogan, 'Next week, for country's sake'.

As young Indians have been participating in the anti-corruption movement from its very outset, it became mandatory for them to support the agitation once again so that they could create a corruption free India for the next generation by implementing Jan Lokpal Bill.

A group of 31 students from IIT Delhi

towards a single test. There is no other choice. I am going to set up a committee involving the IIT faculty and the Council to look at the issue of a single national test. I have discussed it with the IIT Kanpur faculty.

"They said they would be happy to be part of the committee," Sibal said.

He said he would ask Dr CNR Rao to chair the committee because under Rao, the PM's Scientific Advisory Council resolved to have a single national test for admission to all undergraduate courses.

arrived at Jantar Mantar early this morning carrying pamphlets, national flag and spoof articles which added light environment to the agitation. Another group of 29 students from IIT Roorkee reached at around noon and shouted patriotic slogans in front of the stage.

"We belong to different regions of the country and decided to join the fast together as we have been sharing same classroom in the institute for the last two years," said a student.

Admitting that the IITs tweaked the originally agreed upon one test formula for admission to technical courses, the HRD Minister said, "I wanted one test. I didn't succeed in that. The IITs tweaked the formula. I opted out of the final IIT Council meeting and said they could decide whatever they want for admission to their system.

"The single test resolution is not my resolution. It is the resolution of the PM's Council. It is the view of CNR Rao, who symbolises excellence in education. Clearly, what I was trying to do was consistent

"We have bunked classes to take part in the agitation because Anna Hazare and his team members have been fighting for the sake of our country not for their bank balances," said another student.

"Our friends told us that there is poor response to Anna's agitation as shown in the TV. So we decided to reach the spot in large numbers because we don't want the campaign to flop as it is not Anna's campaign but ours too," said Mohit Chakroverty, a student.

with what the best minds in the country were thinking."

Asked what the new committee would prescribe considering India had over 40,000 colleges offering undergraduate-level courses, the minister said the committee would have to develop a test for all college-level undergraduate admissions.

"It will be done in a phased manner. We will take up engineering first and management gradually," Sibal said.

Earlier, the IIT faculty had vetoed the IIT Council's idea of a common test for admission to all technical courses

He added that a student of IIT Delhi, Mr Ambik Rawat, has been fasting since 25 July at Jantar Mantar to register his support and will not break his fast till Mr Kejriwal does it.

According to IIT Roorkee students, they have been participating in the campaign from 25 July and have rented an accommodation here.

"Our hero, Mr Kejriwal wanted us to be present here at least for a week," said Mr Pravesh Rai.

outcome but efforts towards a single test could not be given up.

"We now have a single engineering test for all central institutes except the IITs. Deemed universities have agreed to join it. The All-India Council for Technical Education has passed directions to affiliated technical colleges to join after their states concur.

"The states are writing to us to join the single test. West Bengal will come on board in 2014. So, in principle, we have succeeded to have one test for technical courses," Sibal said.

Mahamedha ND 30/07/2012 p-16

छग में आईआईटी खड़गपुर के विस्तार केन्द्र का शुभारंभ

रायपुर (ब्यूरो छग)। छत्तीसगढ़ के तकनीकी शिक्षा मंत्री रामविचार नेताम ने भारतीय प्रौद्योगिकी संस्थान (आईआईटी) खड़गपुर के विस्तार केन्द्र का शनिवार को शुभारंभ किया। इस विस्तार केन्द्र की स्थापना के लिए मुख्यमंत्री डॉ. रमन सिंह की मौजूदगी में गत 17 अप्रैल को राज्य सरकार और आईआईटी खड़गपुर के प्रतिनिधियों के बीच समझौता ज्ञापन पर हस्ताक्षर किए गए थे। साढ़े तीन माह के कम समय में शनिवार को यह विस्तार केन्द्र शुभारंभ के साथ ही अस्तित्व

में आ गया। श्री नेताम ने शुभारंभ समारोह में कहा कि आईआईटी खड़गपुर देश ही नहीं बल्कि दुनिया का प्रतिष्ठित संस्थान है। छत्तीसगढ़ में इसका विस्तार केन्द्र मील का पत्थर साबित होगा। उन्होंने कहा कि इस संस्थान से विद्यार्थियों का क्षमता विकास होगा और उन्हें गुणवत्तायुक्त तकनीकी शिक्षा मिलेगी। उन्होंने कहा कि इस विस्तार केन्द्र से प्रदेश के विद्यार्थियों को आईआईटी जैसे उच्च तकनीकी शिक्षा संस्थान में पढ़ाई करने का अवसर मिलेगा।

आइआइटी का मोह त्याग चले अन्ना की राह

जागरण संवाददाता, नई दिल्ली : अन्ना आंदोलन के



अनिल कुमार

समर्थन में उपस्थित नौजवानों की दलीलें सरकारी हुक्मरानों के खिलाफ भारी असंतोष दर्ज करा रही है। व्यवस्था के खिलाफ गुस्से का आलम यह है कि छात्र आइआइटी जैसे प्रतिष्ठित संस्थान को छोड़कर आंदोलन की राह पकड़ रहे हैं। जंतर-मंतर पर 25 जुलाई से अनशन पर बैठे अनिल ने आइआइटी दिल्ली से एमटेक की पढ़ाई छोड़ अन्ना की राह पर चलने का फैसला किया है। वहीं दूसरी ओर 30 आइआइटी छात्रों का समूह रविवार को अन्ना के समर्थन में जंतर-मंतर पर पहुंचा और एक दिन का अनशन किया।

उत्तर प्रदेश के सहारनपुर निवासी अनिल कुमार एमएससी और नेट (एनईटी) कर चुका है। पिछले वर्ष अगस्त में हुए अन्ना के अनशन से जुड़े अनिल का कहना है कि आइआइटी में रहकर भ्रष्टाचार के खिलाफ जंग लड़ने में दिक्कत आ रही थी, इसलिए आइआइटी छोड़कर अन्ना की राह पर चलने का फैसला किया। अनिल कहते हैं कि भ्रष्टाचार मुझे बर्दाश्त नहीं। इसलिए मैं चल निकला हूँ और अपने जैसे युवाओं से यह अपील करूंगा कि आगे तो बढ़ो, अन्यथा देश की तकदीर व तस्वीर पर इसी तरह बर्दा लगता रहेगा।

इनका दद



आए।

एक बुजुर्ग आने वाली पीढ़ी के लिए व्यवस्था परिवर्तन की लड़ाई लड़ रहा है और युवा पीढ़ी घर में हो, इससे ज्यादा बुरा क्या होगा देश का। अन्ना युवाओं के बेहतर भविष्य की लड़ाई लड़ रहे हैं और हमें इसे आगे बढ़ाना ही नहीं जीतना भी है। जरूरत पड़ी तो हम फिर आएंगे।



मुकेश कुमार (आइआइटी, दिल्ली)

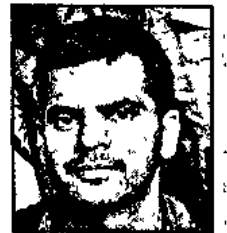
गौरव कौशल (आइआइटी, रुड़की) मैं सभी युवाओं से इस अनशन में भाग लेने की अपील करता हूँ। यह एक नए भारत की तस्वीर है। भले ही हम आइआइटी में हैं, लेकिन हम भी देश में व्याप्त भ्रष्टाचार से उतना ही पीड़ित हैं जितना आम लोग। इसे खत्म करना ही होगा।



ही होगा।

आज हमारे लिए भी पढ़ाई, टेक्नोलॉजी और रिसर्च वर्क से कहीं ज्यादा भ्रष्टाचार का मुद्दा अहम है। देश का प्रीमियर इंस्टीट्यूट भी इससे अछूता नहीं।

अमित त्रिपाठी, (आइआइटी, रुड़की)



Euro trip turns sour for 5 Indian profs

Miss Seminar, Spend Night In Custody In Madrid, Pay More For New Visas

Neha Lalchandani | TNN

New Delhi: It was meant to be a week-long trip to Europe for five professors from various Indian universities. After presenting papers at a seminar in Madrid (Spain) they were supposed to travel to Barcelona (Spain), Paris and Helsinki (Finland) before returning back to India.

However, an alleged error by their airline on their visa landed them in an overnight preventive custody in Madrid. Not only did they miss the seminar they had travelled for, but after not being issued fresh visas, they were not permitted to travel to any other Schengen state and lost money on hotel bookings and travel.

"The professors were travelling to Madrid to attend the World Conference of Political Science. On their way back, some wanted to travel to other coun-

tries and I finalized all their bookings. Seven of them were travelling together and had a 31-day single entry Schengen visa, which meant that they were permitted into the Schengen zone only once for a maximum stay of a month," said Satyajit Roy, their travel agent.

Their flight to Madrid via Helsinki on FinnAir was scheduled to depart at 10.30am on July 7.

However, due to a delay it left at 1.30pm. "We told the airline staff that we only had a two hour window at Helsinki before our connecting flight but were assured the airline would make alternate bookings for us. When we landed in Helsinki, the airline said we would have to stay overnight and would be sent off the next day. They put us up in a hotel outside the airport because of which we had to get our passports stamped. That is where the problem

started," said Jayanta Sarmah, a Gauhati University professor.

The next morning, two professors were routed through Geneva on Swiss Air. The remaining five were given tickets for a flight via London. "However, an immigration official raised an issue. He said that England was not a

AIRLINE FAUX PAS?

Schengen state and since we had a single entry visa, we would not be permitted into Spain. The airline staff agreed and gave us tickets to Moscow instead. Even Russia is not a Schengen state but the staff assured us that everything had been taken care of," said another professor who did not wish to be named.

When they landed in Madrid around 11pm on July 8, the five were taken aside by security personnel and kept in a separate room. Their passports and other belongings were taken

away. "The security officer spoke to us in Spanish and we couldn't understand him. With the one call that was permitted, we called our colleagues and told that we were at the airport. It was next morning when someone came to help us," said the professor.

On July 9, the detained passengers were visited by a social worker. Only then were they informed of the faux pas and were permitted to call their family. "At 11am, the authorities told us that our visa was invalid. Once they were convinced that the airline had defaulted, they issued us fresh Spanish visas after a payment of 60 euros each," said Sarmah.

A FinnAir official said: "As soon as we were made aware of the problem we got in touch with the Spanish Embassy in Delhi and the border guards in Spain. The circumstances leading to this incident are being investigated."

Deccan Herald ND 30.07.2012 P-4

No end to admission tussle

DU colleges defy HRD order on SC/ST admissions, activists irked

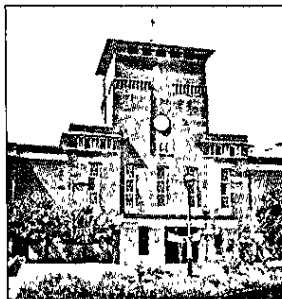
NEW DELHI: Activists working for SC and ST category students admissions in Delhi University have objected to university not following directives of the ministry of human resource development regarding admitting students - general and reserved category in equal proportions or the actual intake.

"Usually there are three cut-off lists which used to come out for the Scheduled Castes (SC) and Scheduled Tribes (ST) students. This year DU closed all admissions after the second cut-off list. When the human resource development (HRD)

ministry has already stated that if there are over admissions in general category students, then the admissions for reserved category students will also be increased accordingly, still the university chose not to follow the directive," said Sujit Kumar, activist and DU student.

Around 24,000 students from the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes category applied this year. DU closed its admissions after filling 12,000 reserved seats in various colleges.

"Most colleges in most of the courses over admit students in general category, however, when it comes to reserve cate-



gory they close admissions. If a college is over admitting 30 students in general category why can't it increase the intake of six-seven students in reserved category?" said Kumar.

He added had DU colleges followed the HRD directive, at

least 40 per cent more, which comes to around 6,000-7,000 more students could have been given admissions this year.

The cut-offs for the Other Backward Classes (OBC) category are still coming out as per the order of filling all OBC seats on actual intake given by the HRD ministry.

The principals' association has been raising concerns over calculation of total intake with over admitting students from general as well as reserved category.

"Students from general category drop their admission after getting through medical, engineering, management colleges. We don't know how to

reduce the number of the reserved category students then. Now that the OBC cut-off is still going on, we are still unsure when the admissions will finally stop for us to calculate the total intake," added a member.

The members also cited reason of colleges lacking infrastructure for not carrying out over admissions in general as well as reserved category.

"When they can over admit 30-40 students above than the sanctioned seats in general category, why does the infrastructure question comes only when five-six more students from reserved category ask for admissions?" added Kumar.

DH News Service