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JEE (Main) ranks: Many fear losing seats of choice

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TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

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After facing the embarrassment of AIPMT paper leak, the CBSE appears to have goofed on JEE (Main) rankings by releasing the first all-India rank list in haste without considering the re-verified/revaluated Class XII (non-medical) marks of candidates.

Thousands, who applied for the revaluation, fear losing admission to engineering colleges of their choice after the CBSE failed to take into account their revised marks while computing the merit list of JEE (Main) released yesterday.

JEE (Main) rankings are being used from today for joint admission counselling by top engineering institutes like IITs, NITs and IIITs.

Students, however, don't even know if the board has finalised their ranks based on the old or revised school marks. It's equally surpris-

Left in the lurch

- The CBSE has released the first merit list of JEE (Main) rankings without considering re-evaluated Class XII (non-medical) marks of candidates
- JEE (Main) rankings, which comprise 60 pc weightage of the entrance exam score and 40 pc weightage of Class XII score, are being used from Thursday for joint admission counselling by top engineering institutes like IITs, NITs and IIITs
- CBSE says the revised list will be out on July 8 but the question is how will that help when the last date for filling stream choices for IITs, NITs, IIITs joint admission counselling is from July 1 to July 5?

JEE merit list is out but doesn't count re-evaluated Class XII marks

The solution

Students' only chance of a level playing field now is if the CBSE and JEE (Main) authorities declare revised rankings before July 5 and also if the board asks Joint Seat Allocation Authority for Admissions to extend the deadline for filling-in of choices beyond July 8

ing that the first merit list was out yesterday when the information bulletin of JEE (Main) portal on the CBSE's website mentioned that the ranks would be declared only on July 7.

"The CBSE should have pub-lished the JEE score and the final Class XII normalised score separately to enable students to know their status. We have been running around since yesterday to find out if the final marks have been used.

CONTINUED ON P13

JEE: Many fear losing seats of choice

The board is not saying anything," a parent said. JEE (Main) rank comprises 60% weightage of JEE (Main) score and 40% weightage of Class XII score. JK Yadav in CBSE's JEE Apex Board said the all-India rank of JEE (Main) released yesterday took into account verified marks of candidates but not their re-evaluated marks. "The revised list with re-evaluated marks will be released on July 8," he

said, though the board is yet to officially announce the move of a revised list.

What's worse, The Tribune has evidence of students' re-verified marks not been used for yesterday's ranks. Many such students fall under the CBSE's Panchku-la regional office where sources said they had not even sent to CBSE head-quarters updated lists of ver-ified or re-evaluated marks of students and the compu-

tation process was still on.

Another issue is whether a revised list on July 8 will help at all, considering JOSAA (Joint Seat Alloca-tion Authority for Admis-sions in IITs, NITs and IIITs) website mentions the last date for online filling-in of stream choices for institutes as July 5 (starting July 1). This means students will have to fill the ranks the CBSE allotted to them yes-terday, the ones that don't

consider their revised marks and make them lose several ranks in the merit list.

Asked how a second list will help when counselling has begun, Yadav said, "IITs and NITs have agreed to consider the parallel ranks CBSE will award to students later." But many parents today said when they contacted helplines at Patna NIT and Bombay IIT, they were told no change in rankings will be accepted after the July 5 deadline.

Statesman ND 03/07/2015 P-8

Autonomy of IIMs

It would be presumptuous, even optimistic, to imagine that the HRD ministry is having second thoughts on its resolve to intervene in the functioning of the Indian Institutes of Management ~ among the very few bastions of excellence. Far from it. Nonetheless, the decision to redraft the provisions of the IIM Bill, 2015, is doubtless in response to the outcry in the institutes in Ahmedabad, Bangalore and Lucknow over the Centre's attempt to curtail their academic and administrative freedom. The BJP government's renewed initiative recalls the party's previous HRD minister, Murli Manohar Joshi's attempt in 2003 to modify the fee structure in the IITs and IIMs and increase the intake of students. That essay towards ensuring the party's stranglehold is seemingly being continued by Smriti Irani in an untenable attempt to denude the few centres of excellence. The exercise is fundamentally flawed, to say the least. Chief among the amendments on the anvil is that regulations on fees and admission, to be framed by the IIM Board of Governors, will have to be tabled in Parliament after it has been vetted by the law ministry. The Centre's approval will not be mandatory, and this appears to be the singular concession that has been granted. Unmistakable, however, is the scope for political meddling in the House after the document has been crafted by the Board of Governors, in itself a distinguished entity. The IIMs and the galaxy of talent deserve better than a cacophony of voices in the Lok Sabha. This is political meddling through the rear door. Is it really necessary to refer matters relating to IIMs to Parliament? Will the legislature be the overarching regulatory authority? It is far from clear whether Parliament will merely be kept in the loop, still less whether it will have the power to modify and/or ratify the proposed regulations.

In the manner of central universities, IIMs require only the approval of the Visitor (President) for any changes that they may wish to introduce. Should the Bill attain fruition, members representing a cross-section of parties in the House, are likely to get precedence over Boards of Governors. Even in the amended version, crucial issues have been left delightfully vague. Both the original draft and the amendments have made it pretty obvious that autonomy ~ the bedrock of the reputation of IIMs ~ will be diluted considerably. Most importantly, the Centre has arrogated to itself the power to select the IIM Directors and Chairpersons, in itself a calculated deviation from the present system in which the government merely approves the choice of the Board of Governors. Furthermore, the HRD ministry's role will be virtually institutionalised with the formation of a coordination committee, headed by the minister. Political intervention is complete. The Bill deserves to be annulled... not amended.

HRD Ministry to now rank 500 Indian Institutes on 4 parameters

http://indiatoday.intoday.in/education/story/hrd-ministry-to-rank-indian-institutes/1/448516.html

The country's best 500 academic institutes will now be ranked by the Ministry of Human Resource Development (MHRD), August onwards. A detailed ranking matrix with an eight point criteria will be prepared by a committee consisting of officials from the Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs), Indian Institutes of Management (IIMs), Indian Institute of Science Education & Research (IISER), Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU), the English & Foreign Languages University - Andhra Pradesh as well as representatives of the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) and the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce & Industry (FICCI).

A nod has already been given by the MHRD to the draft proposal for science, which consists of parameters such as teaching-learning, infrastructure and academic performance. A similar matrix will be created to rank courses and colleges in Arts, Medicine, Economics and Social Sciences, Management/Business Administration, Law, Hotel Management as well as Mass/Visual Communication. This development will be further extended to 33,000 institutes.

The Ministry will be keeping physical checks while conducting methods to automated validation, as well. Citizens can access the information and raise objections if required. The institutes will be divided based on an urban and a rural ranking, once the pilot run for these is successful.

The following parameters will be judged on while making the list:

Teaching-Learning

This section will test the institutes on the teacher-student ratio, percentage of students from other than native state, the usage of modern technology and resources to teach and percentage of time spent in laboratory/library and refresher course for faculty.

Academic performance

The section will comprise of performances of institutes in global, national tests as well as external examinations. The citation and research papers submitted will also be taken in account.

Outreach

Technology development and its interface with periphery of institution and empowerment of women will be stressed upon in this parameter.

Impact
This will include weightage on visibility nationally or globally, self-employment as well as satisfaction of community or parents.

A ranking system is being adopted by our country in order to demarcate ranking from accreditation, which is the responsibility of the National Assessment & Accreditation Council (NAAC).

Over 96,000 register for admission to IITs and NITs

Hindustan Times (Mumbai)

Around 19,000 students have opted for IITs in the allocation process

THERE IS NO DELAY IN THE RESULT DECLARATION. LAST YEAR, IT WAS DECLARED ON JULY 8 AND THIS YEAR IT WAS SCHEDULED ON JULY 5. WE HAVE DECLARED IT BEFOREHAND CBSE SPOKESPERSON

MUMBAI: Over 96,000 aspirants registered for submitting choices for the first-ever joint seat allocation process for IITs and NITs till Thursday night, the second day of submitting choices. Of these students, nearly a fifth - more than 18,900 – opted for IITs. In all, around 50 lakh choices were made by the students.

On Wednesday, the day one for submitting choices, around 58,000 students registered, 13,000 of them for IITs. The students can fill their choices online till Sunday, July 5.

The Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) declared the JEE (Main) ranks on Wednesday after a delay of almost a week.

More than 11 lakh students will be part of the allocation process for nearly 34,000 seats in 85 technical institutes, including 18 IITs and 34 NITs. According to the aspirants, the online registration process saw some complaints.

An admission official said that there were few minor complaints about passwords for registrations not working.

However, the help centre reported solving the problems.

A few students complained that CBSE did not consider their re-evaluated marks for class 12 while releasing JEE (Main) ranks.

All the top three rankers for JEE(Main) are from the state. Pune boy Sankalp Gaur secured all India rank one followed by Tanuj Kaza from Mumbai and Giridhar S, also from Pune, who stood third.

The delay in release of JEE Main ranks, however, resulted in a postponement of almost four days for the commencement of courses at NITs and six days at IITs. CBSE claimed that there was no delay in releasing JEE(Main) ranks.

"There is no delay in the result declaration. Last year, it was declared on July 8 and this year it was scheduled on July 5. We have declared it beforehand," said CBSE spokesperson.

A top admission official from IIT-B said that the delay will be investigated after the seat allocation process is over.

Also, the centralised admission process (CAP) - round one - for state engineering colleges got rescheduled (see box) owing to the delay in declaration of JEE(Main) ranks, started on Thursday.

Researcher 'stings' Thampu to claim he blocked complaint

Recording Shows She Was Discouraged, Principal Silent

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: The researcher who had accused the former St Stephen's College bursar of sexual harassment had also named the college principal, Valson Thampu, in her complaint to the police for "trying to shield" Satish Kumar. Now she has produced recordings, purportedly of four meetings between her, Thampu and Kumar held on January 7, 9 and 10 this year. The transcripts, recordings and photographs of SMSs that Kumar allegedly sent have been submitted to the police. The authenticity of the recordings—made on a mobile phone—is yet to be established.

The four media files have little to do with the harassment itself but, if genuine, reveal how the PhD student's case was handled—or not—by the college. The meetings—if they are from the dates the woman claims they're from—would've taken place after she had already sought relief from the university's department of chemistry and brought the matter to the notice of the college. Her parents—going by her FIR statement—had already met Thampu. The formal complaint to the college's internal complaints committee (ICC) was made only in February 2015. The recordings, if proved to be genuine, may help explain that delay.

On several instances, a male voice—allegedly Thampu's—discourages the victim from filing a complaint or calling it sexual harassment. There's no direct order to the victim to withdraw but the withdrawal of complaint or

WHAT'S ON RECORD

The woman researcher who has accused the former bursar of St Stephen's College of sexual harassment, claims to have recorded four conversations between her, college principal Valson Thampu and the bursar on January 7, 9 and 10 this year. With little on the harassment itself, the recordings, if genuine, reveal more about how her case was handled when reported to the college authorities

JAN 9

VT| (inaudible) ... Please don't make my work more difficult. You have to take that complaint back, *aaj hi karoge, nahi to* complication *ho jayega*

JAN 10

Excerpt I

VT| So there are two ways of doing it. If you are happy and want to peacefully complete your course and go, there are two ways

Woman| Okay

VT| One is, I will write to the internal complaints committee. The committee will call. That time all you have to do is to say, "I have no complaints. The matter has been settled. I don't want to go into details"

Woman| But sir, I mean...

VT| Here's what—I'm not saying you should do it

Woman| Okay

VT| I'm only saying that it is the only way it can be handled. Either it goes to the police investigation...

Woman| Okay

VT| And all the media attention and all the, you know, defamation. Nothing will happen, your work (coughs) will get (coughs) (inaudible)...

Excerpt II

VT| The other way is for you to completely ignore it...

Woman| Okay

VT| And give me another statement

Woman: Okay

VT| Saying that you faced some difficulties (inaudible) and it would (be) great if I look into the matter and sort out the issue

Woman| Okay

VT| You don't have to say what those difficulties are

downplaying it before the ICC are clearly presented as the more favourable options. In one instance, she is told, "So there are two ways of doing it...One is, I will write to the internal complaints committee. The committee will call. That time all you have to do is to say, 'I have no complaints. The matter has been settled. I don't want to go into details.' The other option—'police investigation'—will lead to 'all the media attention' and 'defamation'."

There is, however, no confirmation that the voice concerned is that of the principal. Thampu was called repeatedly by this reporter and sent an email on Thursday but he didn't respond. The lines quoted here were also emailed to him for verification.

The recordings of the January 7 and 9 meetings contain another male voice—allegedly Kumar's—promising full cooperation to the researcher with her thesis. At one point, it promises the victim "there won't be any problem" and says he'll ensure the PhD is completed "even if I have to...write entire thing myself". Kumar had earlier told TOI that he was being pressured by the woman to write her PhD. By January 10, patience with her persistence was clearly running thin and the effort to keep the matter under wraps, increasingly apparent. She was told he "cannot afford to drag this college into any nonsense", that a formal complaint may be leaked, that "the media will howl" and her "profession will become difficult". Most outrageously, at one point, she had a letter on withholding action on her complaint dictated to her. Confused by the convoluted logic of the arguments she's being presented with, the woman asks what the consequences will be of withdrawing her complaint. She almost capitulates to the 'suggestions' but balks at the thought that "then it will be the matter of [her] character".

Mint ND 03/07/2015   P-26

UNMANNED MISSION

Nasa unveils boomerang-shaped aircraft to take flight to Mars

PTI
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WASHINGTON

The National Aeronautics and Space Administration (Nasa) has unveiled a boomerang-shaped aircraft that could be the first to take flight to Mars to look for potential landing sites for future manned mission to the red planet.

A prototype of the Preliminary Research Aerodynamic Design to Land on Mars, or Prandtl-m, which is a flying wing aircraft with a twist, is planned to be ready for launch from a high altitude balloon later this year, Nasa said.
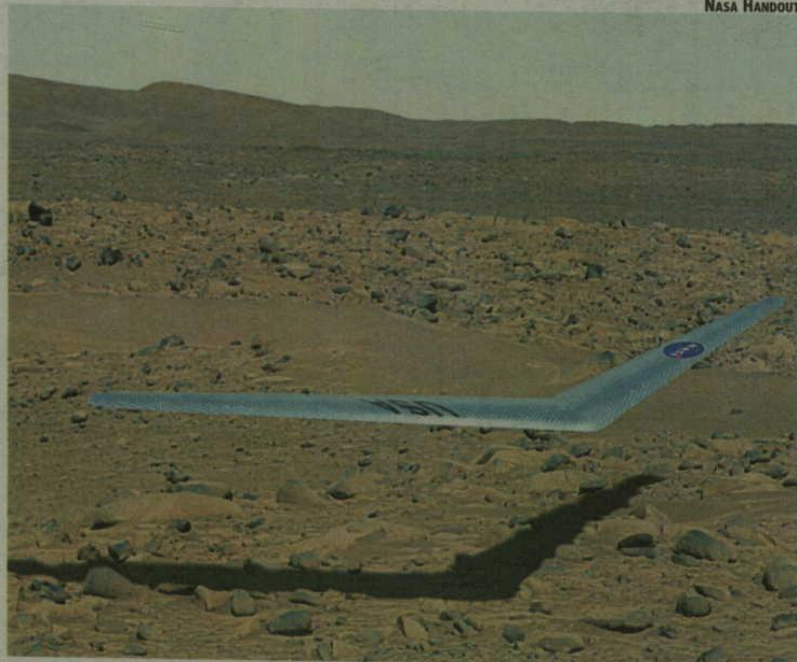
The Prandtl-m will be released at about at 100,000 ft altitude, which will simulate the flight conditions of the Martian atmosphere, said Al Bowers, Nasa Armstrong chief scientist and Prandtl-m programme manager.

The tests could validate how the aircraft works, leading to modifications that will allow it to fold and deploy from a 3U Cube-Sat in the aeroshell of a future Mars rover.

A CubeSat is a miniature satellite used for space research that is usually about four inches in each dimension, a 3U is three of those stacked together.

"The aircraft would be part of the ballast that would be ejected from the aeroshell that takes the Mars rover to the planet," Bowers said.

It would be able to deploy and fly in the Martian atmosphere

NASA HANDOUT

Plane prototype: *The proposed Preliminary Research Aerodynamic Design to Land on Mars, or Prandtl-m.*

and glide down and land, he added.

The Prandtl-m could overfly some of the proposed landing sites for a future astronaut mission and send back to Earth very detailed high resolution photographic map images that could tell scientists about the suitability of those landing sites," said Bowers. Because the Prandtl-m could ride in a CubeSat as ballast aboard the aeroshell/Mars rover piggyback stack going to Mars in 2022-2024, the additional weight would not add to the mission's cost, he said.

Once in the Martian atmosphere, the Prandtl-m would emerge from its host, deploy and begin its mission. "It would have

a flight time of right around 10 minutes. The aircraft would be gliding for the last 2,000 ft to the surface of Mars and have a range of about 20 miles," Bowers said.

Before that happens, a configuration will be developed for the first of three tests on Earth.

"We have a number of summer community college students coming that are going to help us design and build the aircraft that will complete the first phase of the mission," Bowers said.

"We're going to build some vehicles and we are going to put them in very unusual attitudes and see if they will recover where other aircraft would not. Our expectation is that they will recover," said Bowers.

Eight Indian American Entrepreneurs Awarded E&Y Regional Honors

http://www.indiawest.com/news/business/eight-indian-american-entrepreneurs-awarded-e-y-regional-honors/article_c4f46280-2043-11e5-b2df-5f3cad78be9c.html

The Ernst and Young 2015 Entrepreneur of the Year regional awards wrapped up last week, and an additional eight Indian Americans were honored.

Raj Sardana, chairman and CEO of American CyberSystems Inc., won the workplace services award in the Southeast region; Dr. Setul Patel, CEO of Neighbors Health System Inc., won the health care honor in the Gulf Coast Area region; Rina Parikh and Bharat Parikh, president and CEO of AASKI Technology, respectively, and Navneet Puri, founder of InnoPharma Inc., were honored in the New Jersey region; Kinesh Doshi, founder and CEO of Accion Labs Inc., and Parag Batavia, president of Neya Systems LLC, took home technology and software, and robotics honors, respectively, in the Western Pennsylvania and West Virginia region; and Abhi Shah, founder and CEO of Clutch Group, was awarded in the services group in the Greater Washington region.

The eight joined Northern California winners Dheeraj Pandey, president and CEO of Nutanix Inc., and Jayshree Ullal, president and CEO of Arista Networks (**I-W** June 19, 2015, http://bit.ly/1d4pKWh), as well as Shiva Rajagopalan, CEO of Seven Lakes Technologies; Payal Kadakia, founder and CEO of ClassPass; and Atul Gupta, president of Advanced Technologies Group LLC, in the Greater Los Angeles, New York and Upper Midwest regions (See separate story).

Winners were selected by an independent judging panel comprising previous award winners, leading CEOs, private capital investors and other business leaders.

Sardana founded Duluth, Ga.-based American CyberSystems in 1998. Since then, the company has grown to more than 10,000 employees across 25 countries.

Sardana has led ACS to support local U.S.-based nonprofit organizations such as the YWCA's "Teen Girls in Technology" program and the Atlanta Food Bank. Through its India operations, ACS supports the Earth Savior Foundation, an NGO based in Delhi.

He holds an MS in technology from the Georgia Institute of Technology and an advanced management degree from the Wharton School of Business at the University of Pennsylvania.

Patel helped found Pearland, Texas-based Neighbors Health System in 2008, a regional emergency medicine healthcare delivery model through free-standing emergency facilities.

Patel started his career as an emergency room physician, graduating from the University of Virginia Medical School and completing specialty training at Christiana Care Health System in Newark, Del., where he was also chief resident. After obtaining his MBA from the University of Tennessee, Patel helped found Neighbors.

Rina Parikh founded Ocean, N.J.-based AASKI Technology in 1997, providing independent consulting to commercial customers including AT&T and Lucent.

She began her career as a support contractor to the Army, where she was involved in advanced technology demonstrations for digitization of the battlefield in support of Task Force XXI.

More recently, she has been involved in the initiation of the Synchronized Pre-Deployment Operations Tracker program, which is now a DoD standard for tracking personnel deployed OCONUS.

Rina Parikh holds a BS in electrical engineering from Rutgers University, and an MBA in contracts management from Fairleigh Dickinson University.

Bharat Parikh is a technical and management professional with more than 25 years of experience in the communications and networking industry, with a strong emphasis on acquisition management and engineering.

He was an Army civilian in PEO EIS, PM DCATS for nine years from 1989 to 1998, and was involved in advanced IP networking technology in the commercial industry from 1998 to 2002.

He has been a U.S. representative to NATO for six years in an Ad-Hoc Experts Group for satellite communications waveforms.

He has a BS in electrical engineering from Rutgers University and an MS in electrical engineering from Fairleigh Dickinson University.

Puri founded Piscataway, N.J.-based InnoPharma Inc. in 2005. He is a pharmacist by educational training and has an MS and a doctorate in pharmaceutical sciences.

Prior to founding InnoPharma, Puri has worked in the pharmaceutical industry at Baxter Healthcare Corp. and Amgen Inc. He was credited with establishing a novel technology platform for blending drugs for parenteral administration while working at Baxter.

Doshi, who founded Pittsburgh-based Accion Labs Inc., has about 20 years of IT leadership, business strategy and execution experience.

A graduate of DCE, IIT-Delhi and Kellogg School of Business, he has co-founded two other technology services firms.

Batavia founded Wexford, Pa.-based Neya Systems LLC in 2009. Prior to starting Neya, he was the director of projects and operations at Applied Perception Inc. and managed the company's integration into Foster-Miller/QinetiQ-North America after API's acquisition in 2007.

Batavia holds a doctorate in robotics from Carnegie Mellon University, an MBA from Drexel University's LeBow College of Business and a BS in computer engineering from the University of Southern California.

Shah founded Washington, D.C.-based Clutch Group, a legal solutions provider, in 2005. It has since grown to six offices across the United States, Europe and Asia, serving Fortune 500 companies.

Prior to founding Clutch Group, Shah worked at Mphasis and Accenture. He is also the chairman of Yuva Unstoppable, a youth organization with roughly 120,000 volunteers in 32 Indian cities to help underprivileged children. Shah has also helped launch the Congressional Taskforce on U.S.-India investment and trade relations.

Shah has a BBA in marketing from Texas A&M University and an MBA from Harvard Business School.

The national awards gala is scheduled for this November in Palm Desert, Calif.