

**Newspaper Clips**  
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**Rashtriya Sahara ND 12/06/2014 P-13**

# भूटान ने आईआईटी व आईआईएम में छात्रों के प्रवेश का मुद्दा उठाया

नई दिल्ली (एसएनबी)। भूटान के राजदूत मेजर जनरल वेस्टोप नामग्येल ने बुधवार को मानव संसाधन विकास मंत्री स्मृति ईरानी से मुलाकात की। दक्षेस देशों के बीच क्षेत्रीय सहयोग को सशक्त बनाने में प्रधानमंत्री द्वारा दिखाई गई रुचि का स्वागत करते हुए भूटान के राजदूत ने बताया कि उनका देश प्रधानमंत्री नरेन्द्र मोदी की भूटान यात्रा के इंतजार में है।

मेजर जनरल नामग्येल ने शिक्षा के क्षेत्र में भारत के सहयोग के लिए स्मृति ईरानी का धन्यवाद दिया। उन्होंने कहा कि प्रतिष्ठित नेहरू वांगचुक छात्रवृत्ति के बल पर प्रतिभावान और योग्य भूटानी छात्र भारत में पढ़ाई करने में सक्षम हुए हैं। उन्होंने आईआईटी व आईआईएम-जैसे प्रतिष्ठित भारतीय संस्थानों में भूटान के छात्रों के प्रवेश के लिए

मानव संसाधन विकास मंत्री से अतिरिक्त सहायता की मांग की।

स्मृति ईरानी ने दोनों देशों के बीच ऐतिहासिक और दीर्घकालिक संबंधों की चर्चा करते हुए कहा कि शिक्षकों और शैक्षिक संस्थाओं के क्षमता निर्माण में भूटान

के साथ सहयोग करने के प्रति भारत की गहरी रुचि है। उन्होंने कहा कि एनआईटी में विदेशी छात्रों के सीधे प्रवेश

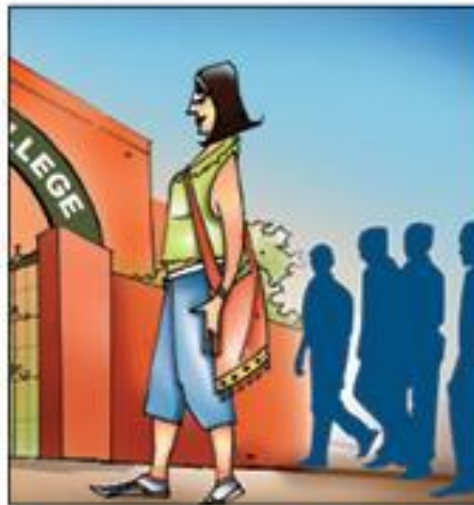
की अनुमति दी गई है तथा आईआईटी व आईआईएम-जैसे प्रतिष्ठित संस्थानों में भूटान के छात्रों के प्रवेश के मुद्दे की जांच की जाएगी। उन्होंने कहा कि दोनों देशों के बीच सहयोग के बारे में आगे विचार-विमर्श के लिए भूटान के शिक्षा मंत्री के दौरे का वह इंतजार कर रही है।

■ भूटान के राजदूत स्मृति ईरानी से मिले

# देश में जल्द आएंगी फॉरेन यूनिवर्सिटीज

■ विशेष संवाददाता, नई दिल्ली  
मोदी सरकार ने फॉरेन यूनिवर्सिटी के लिए इंडिया के दरवाजे खोलने की तैयारी तेज कर दी है। यह यूपीए सरकार का भी फेवरेट प्रोजेक्ट था। अब ह्यूमन रिसोर्स डिवेलपमेंट मिनिस्ट्री इस प्रोजेक्ट पर तेजी से काम कर रही है। फॉरेन यूनिवर्सिटी बिल के जरिए फॉरेन यूनिवर्सिटी अपनी ब्रांच इंडिया में खोल सकेंगी।

एचआरडी मिनिस्ट्री के सूत्रों के मुताबिक इस प्रस्तावित बिल पर सरकार काफी ध्यान दे रही है। इस बिल को यूपीए-2 के दौरान लाया गया था। जब कपिल सिब्बल एचआरडी मिनिस्टर थे उस वक्त यह प्रस्ताव लाया गया लेकिन वामपंथियों के तरफ से इसका कड़ा विरोध किया गया। वह एजुकेशन सेक्टर में फॉरेन प्लेयर्स की



एचआरडी मिनिस्ट्री ने  
तेज की तैयारी

एंटी के खिलाफ थे। कई नेता भी इसके खिलाफ थे। उनका मानना था एक बार अगर एजुकेशन सेक्टर ओपन हो

गया तो फॉरेन यूनिवर्सिटी के नाम पर कई खराब स्टैंडर्ड की प्राइवेट फॉरेन यूनिवर्सिटी भी देश में घुसपैठ कर सकती हैं। इस विरोध के बाद यूपीए सरकार ने इस प्रस्ताव को ठंडे बस्ते में डाल दिया था और इसे एचआरडी पर बनी पॉर्लियामेंट्री कमिटी के पास भेज दिया गया। यह प्रस्ताव फिर नहीं लाया जा सका, क्योंकि यूपीए के पास राज्य सभा में पर्याप्त बहुमत नहीं था। अब नया फॉरेन यूनिवर्सिटी बिल नई सरकार की टॉप प्रॉयोरिटी में से एक है। इसे हायर एजुकेशन सिस्टम में आमूल-चूल बदलाव के तौर पर देखा जा रहा है। सूत्रों के मुताबिक, नई एचआरडी मिनिस्टर स्मृति ईरानी ने हायर एजुकेशन में कई रिफॉर्म के बारे में मंत्रालय के अफसरों से बात की है और वह इनमें तेजी चाहती हैं।

## 1,200 students cheated for taking up internship with IIT-Madras: officials

<http://www.deccanchronicle.com/140611/nation-education/article/1200-students-conned-taking-internship-iit-madras-tag>

Around 1,200 aspiring students from across the country landed at the Indian Institute of Technology Madras (IIT-M) on Tuesday found that they were conned for the summer internship programme. The students later found that the amount they had paid for internship in the prestigious institute was in no way connected to IIT Madras.

Following which angry students staged a protest near a local police station and filed a police complaint against three persons who claimed to be IIT alumnus. The cops arrested three accused.

Techizer India, a Uttar Pradesh based company, situated inside IIT-M Research Park, offered a paid summer internship in courses like Android Application Development, Ethical Hacking & Information Security, Cyber Forensic, Robotics and Embedded and PHP,

The programme was advertised as being conducted at the IIT-Madras Research Park summer internship programme and applicants were told that classes would be handled by IIT professors. For which the students were charged between `2,000 and `3,000 for the ‘course’, and the students were asked to pay online.

There was nothing amiss on Monday, when the first batch of more than 500 students commenced their internship. “The first class went off without any hitch. The class was held at the IIT-Research Park as we were informed. But when the students started questioning the certification, we were told that it would be given by Techizer (the organiser) and not by IIT-Madras,” Veera Sai Raja one of the students reportedly said from Hyderabad.

When the students arrived on Tuesday morning, a notice was put up by IIT-RP authorities which said the programme has been shifted to another venue and the institute was not associated with the company. Guards at the research park refused to let the students in, and Amrendar Pal, the person who claimed to be the head of the firm, was unavailable on phone.

The agitated students began protesting outside the research park, and later complained to the police about the incident.

# Govt may spend more on edu, health

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

**New Delhi:** Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Wednesday pledged to work for the poor and improve healthcare and school education standards which may point to an increase in higher spending for the critical sectors.

Modi's comments ahead of the 2014-15 Union budget assumes significance as the BJP has been swept to office with the promise to revive various sectors of the economy.

During his reply to the motion of thanks to the President's address, Modi also made it clear that the government would devote its energies to revive the infrastructure in rural areas or as well as the vital farm sector.

If the speech is any indication of the government's strate-

## CAN HE DELIVER?

➤ The state of the public finances may make it difficult for the govt to set aside a significant amount of funds

➤ The govt is readying contingency plans to deal with a poor monsoon. This may also tighten its purse-strings

➤ Finance minister Arun Jaitley has vowed to rein in fiscal deficit, which means big expenditure on education & health is unlikely

gy then the budget could see a significant step up in spending in these sectors.

But the state of the public finances may make it difficult for the government to set aside any significant amount of funds for

## Modi promises boost in farm produce

**R**eal-time data on agriculture products, linkages between agriculture university laboratories and farms and use of research to boost farm produce were some of the innovative ideas that poured out in an extempore speech by PM Narendra Modi in Lok Sabha on Wednesday. Responding to criticism and queries from opposition benches on how the government would accomplish the agendas set out in the President's speech, Modi put across simple solutions that would curb price rise and increase agriculture produce. **TNN**

new schemes. Global rating agencies and investors are keenly watching the government's to improve the state of the treasury.

"Allocations projected in the interim budget 2014-15 are generally not altered," the finance ministry recent letter to departments. But it said that it could examine demands for new schemes in special cases.

Finance minister Arun Jaitley has vowed to rein in the fiscal

deficit and has said fiscal consolidation was key goal for the new government.

The government has said it is readying contingency plans to deal with a possible impact of below normal monsoon rains. This may also force the government to tighten its purse-strings.

The BJP in its manifesto has promised to bring amenities to rural areas while retaining the soul of villages.

Millenium Post ND 12/06/2014 P-3

# Delhi University divided over FYUP

As many as 200 first year students say they are happy with the course

ANKUSH VATS

**NEW DELHI:** The row over controversial Four-Year Undergraduate Programme (FYUP) has divided the university into two camps with one camp which includes almost all the students' and teachers' association demanding a complete roll-back. On the other side are the first-year students who say that they are happy with the course.

A group of around 200 first-year students from various colleges of the university staged a demonstration in favour of FYUP on Wednesday at the same venue where National Students Union of India (NSUI) leaders were sitting on hunger strike for the last six days demanding its roll back.

Ansh Goel, a student of B Tech in Maharaja Agrasen College who also spear-headed the '#SaveFYUP' campaign said that there

seniors (student leaders) are playing politics over such a serious issue. 'For their petty political gains, they are putting our future at risk. There is no basis in their argument; they are not even students of FYUP. We are the student of FYUP and we are happy with the course and its curriculum,' said Ansh.

The students have also started a Facebook page titled 'Make it Better, Dont Delete it. FYUP- DU' which has already got over 1,000 likes.

The union leaders have alleged that the students have been sent by VC himself to divert the issue. 'There is a huge pressure on university to roll back FYUP now. By sending these students to campaign for FYUP he is trying to prove that he did the right thing by implementing it,' said a senior ABVP leader.

Meanwhile, the six-day



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hunger strike of National Students' Union of India (NSUI) leaders demanding roll back of FYUP came to an abrupt end Tuesday night with university authorities

using police force to end the protest. 'Late last night, the university officials came with police and forced us to end our strike. Our leaders were forcefully shifted out

and taken into an ambulance,' said Amreesh Pandey, spokesperson of NSUI. Following the turn of events, the NSUI members shouted slogans

against Vice-Chancellor (VC) and DU administration outside Union Human Resource Development Minister Smriti Irani's house on Wednesday.



Slogans were shouted and protests were organised in Delhi University on Wednesday

Indian Express ND 12/06/2014 P-11

# Month after Joshi complaint, HRD asks Joint Secy handling varsities to go

Senior BJP leader had accused Raju of 'manipulation' in appointing new V-Cs

ANUBHUTI VISHNOI  
NEW DELHI, JUNE 11

**I**N one of the first such decisions under the new dispensation at the Centre, it is learnt that the Smriti Irani-led Union Human Resource Development Ministry has asked one of its Joint Secretaries, Jagmohan Singh Raju, to leave the ministry.

On June 10, the ministry issued a circular handing over the charge of Raju's work to another Joint Secretary. While Raju's office has been maintaining that the Joint Secretary is on medical leave, sources confirmed that he is set to apply for voluntary repatriation to his cadre and is unlikely to come back to the HRD ministry.

The move to drop Raju comes almost a month after former HRD minister and BJP leader Murli Manohar Joshi wrote to the President alleging 'manipulation' by the ministry in the process of appointing new vice-chancellors to 12 new Central universities and demanding that the selection process be scrapped and left to the next government.

Raju, a Tamil Nadu cadre 1985 batch IAS officer, was until June 6 handling issues related to Central universities. His bureau is currently busy with the appointment process for new V-Cs to 12 Central universities and the controversial four-year undergraduate programme of the University of Delhi. He came on Central deputation in March 2009 and completed his term in March this year. Raju was given an extended tenure of one year ahead of elections in March.

While several attempts were made to contact Raju, he did not respond to phone calls and messages.

The ministry has been for a while in

the middle of an exercise to appoint 15 V-Cs—most of them to Central universities set up in 2009. Top jobs at the Central universities of Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Rajasthan, Punjab, Bihar, Gujarat, Jammu & Kashmir, Jharkhand, Orissa, H N Bahuguna University in Uttarakhand and Hari Singh Gour University in Sagar were to fall vacant on March 1. However, due to delays on part of the ministry, the selection could not be done on time.

Joshi in his letter in May had alleged that the composition of the search-cum-selection committees was improper and done with undue haste. He termed the exercise as 'disturbing', indicating there was 'manipulation' at work in the ministry. Joshi had pointed fingers at how certain search committees were chaired by conveners who were junior to other members of the committee, how some committees were headed by college principals and not persons of high stature, and how a certain V-C was a member of a search committee of another university where she was also in the fray for the V-C's job.

Raju was earlier handling the adult education bureau in the ministry. Early this year he began handling the charge of Central varsities. During his brief tenure, handling 44 Central universities, the controversy over selection committees apart, the ministry also had to reverse its decision to extend the tenure of V-Cs in those varsities beyond their one year term and until new V-Cs were appointed. More recently, Raju is said to have had a standoff with the University Grants Commission over routing of funding to Central varsities with the official advocating an IIT-like model in which funding goes through the ministry.



Smriti Irani at the Parliament House in New Delhi on Wednesday.

PREM NATH PANDEY

## 'Too many Left academics in NCTE council'

ANUBHUTI VISHNOI  
NEW DELHI, JUNE 11

**E**DUCATIONISTS, including former NCERT chief under Atal Bihari Vajpayee government Prof J S Rajput, have written to Union Human Resource Development Minister Smriti Irani alleging that Council of the apexteacher education regulatory body—National Council of Technical Education (NCTE)—is packed with Left leaning experts hailing from the Jawaharlal Nehru University and Delhi University's Central Institute of Education (CIE) and this is influencing policy matters with possible serious consequences.

Incidentally, the non-official members of the Council that have been referred to in the letter include Prof Krishna Kumar, former chairperson of NCERT who replaced Rajput when the UPA came to power in 2004. Kumar is credited with undoing the saffronisation of textbooks that was said to have been effected under Rajput.

In a letter dated June 9 and addressed to Irani, it has been said that "things have begun to slide backwards in teacher education" ever since the UPA

government last year reconstituted the NCTE and gave 'disproportionate representation' to those from JNU and DU among non-official members of the Council. "These non-official positions are meant to ventilate the views of professional teacher educators from the various segments and geographical locations of India. Our sense is that instead last year the Council was constituted deliberately in a skewed manner with disproportionate representation from people without professional qualifications in teachers education, those with affiliations to one or two institutions in Delhi," says the letter.

The non-official members of the NCTE Council also include Prof Poonam Batra of DU's CIE, Prof Padma Sarangpani of the Institute for Social and Economic Change, Prof Janaki Ranjan of Jamia Millia Islamia, among others. Signed by Rajput, former NCTE vice-chairperson B K Passi, among others, the letter says this Council is pushing through major revisions in the NCTE regulations that could "change the very DNA of teacher education profession".

Financial Express ND 12/06/2014 P-2

# Foreign varsities may get nod to set up campuses

New Delhi, June 11: The HRD ministry is actively considering revival of three crucial bills on higher education including one which seeks to allow foreign universities set up campuses in India.

These legislations had lapsed with the end of the 15th Lok Sabha. Officials in the ministry said the bills are being studied in details for any changes. The broader contours, however, would remain the same, they said.

HRD minister Smriti Irani is understood to have held some discussions with stakeholders about these legislations for their possible introduction during the next session of Parliament in July.

The Foreign Educational Institutions (Regulation of Entry and Operations) Bill, 2010 along with two other bills which are being revived were introduced during the time of former HRD minister Kapil Sibal. The other two are the Prohibition of Unfair Practices in



One of the 3 Bills the ministry is considering seeks to allow foreign universities set up campuses in India. The Bill had faced stiff resistance from Opposition parties despite efforts by former HRD minister Kapil Sibal to evolve a consensus

Technical Educational Institutions, Medical Educational Institutions and University Bill, 2010 and The National Accreditation Regulatory Authority for Higher Educational Institutions Bill, 2010.

The Foreign Education Providers Bill faced stiff resistance from the Opposition parties despite efforts by Sibal to evolve a

consensus.

A Parliamentary panel which studied the bill had also sought several amendments.

While the UPA government went slow with the bill, Sibal's successor M M Pallam Raju reached out to the Opposition to push through with the other two bills. But the repeated adjourn-

ment of Parliament stalled their passage along with a host of other legislations.

The government is also considering bringing amendments to the UGC Act to give more teeth to the body governing higher education in the country. The BJP manifesto spoke about restructuring the commission.

PTI

# Modi government promises to open 16 New IIMs: Good or Bad?

MBAUniverse.com | 10 June 2014 02:20 IST

<http://www.mbauniverse.com/article/id/7737/Government-to-open-new-IIM>

The Modi government has announced its intentions to open new IIMs and IITs in every state. While few people have raised their objection, there are many who are excited with this prospect. This article analyzes its implications.

Addressing the joint session of the parliament, Honorary President Pranab Mukherjee said the government would set up IITs and IIMs in every state. "We will set up IITs and IIMs in every state." the president said in his speech.

An IIM and IIT in every state, what will be the implications? While few people have raised their objection over the matter, there are many who are excited with this prospect.

The current Government had promised the same during elections and has thus fast-tracked its poll promise by including it in the President's address. Prime Minister Narendra modi had earlier stated that, "Education and job opportunities for the youth; IIMs, IITs & AIMS in every state is one of the 8 Point Development Model of our government".

As per the sources, the government is keen to quickly start this expansion and HRD minister Smriti Irani has already listed infrastructure requirements for new IITs and IIMs as an agenda item for her meeting with state secretaries of higher and technical education on June 17.

Before listing out the merits or demerits of this massive expansion project, let's just analyze the current situation of our IITs and IIMs as a whole.

## Indian Institute of Management – IIM : Current Scenario

There are 13 IIMs now in Ahmedabad, Kolkata, Bangalore, Lucknow, Indore, Kozhikode, Shillong, Rohtak, Raipur, Ranchi, Tiruchirappalli, Kashipur and Udaipur. In the present 13 IIM's there 3335 seats.

Name of B school	No. of Seats
IIM Ahmedabad	380
IIM Bangalore	400
IIM Calcutta	452
IIM Lucknow	432
IIM Kozhikode	361
IIM Indore	440
IIM Raipur	110

IIM Ranchi	150
IIM Kashipur	120
IIM Shillong	120
IIM Trichy	100
IIM Udaipur	120
IIM Rohtak	150

Considering every state has an IIM, it will be total of 29 IIMs. 16 new IIMs will add at least 1920 seats (considering a batch size of 120). Hence the total seats in the IIM quota will be 5255. Out of the total seats, 27% will be reserved for OBC's, 15% will reserved for SC's and 7.5% seats is reserved for ST category making a total of 49.5%. Hence, the general category will now have 2653 seats at their disposal, a massive increase from 1684 seats earlier.

The New IIMs are currently proposed to come up in J&K, Goa, Himachal Pradesh, Punjab, Maharashtra, Seemandhra, Telangana, Delhi, Odisha and north-eastern states other than Meghalaya.

### **Indian Institute of Technology – IIT : Current Scenario**

The 16 IITs in operation are in Mumbai, Delhi, Kanpur, Kharagpur, Chennai, Guwahati, Roorkee, Hyderabad, Patna, Bhubaneswar, Ropar, Jodhpur, Gandhinagar, Indore, Mandi and Varanasi. A total of 8862 seats are there in 16 IITs in India.

Although ISM Dhanbad is also usually considered among IITs and has a total of 1023 seats making the grand total as 9885 seats. In the general category 4,844 seats are available. The new IITs are currently proposed to open up in states like J&K, Haryana, Seemandhra, Goa, Karnataka, Kerala, Chhattisgarh and north-eastern states. It remains to be seen if there will be IIT in each north-eastern state or these states are clubbed together.

### **Benefits of setting New IIMs and IITs**

- Setting of new higher education institutes, increase in the number of seats is definitely good news for aspiring management and technical graduates who want to pursue their careers in the field of management and technology.
- In spite of having the largest population of young minds, students' access to prestigious institutions like IIMs and IITs is limited due to lack of adequate seats. Increase in the number of seats will benefit these brilliant minds to fulfill their dreams.
- Owing to setting up of new institutes, a lot of investment will happen in every state and so the local economy will grow. The standard of not only higher education but primary education will improve, as more people will aspire to avail better education available.
- A large number of students have to migrate from one state to other in order to acquire quality education. Opening of these quality institutes in every state will help in the growth of every state as the migration will



decline. Also the industries will look to higher more local talent than talent from few good colleges from abroad or other states, that will help them higher better and motivated employees willing to stay longer.

- Availability of local talent will further solve a lot of HR issues and industries can benefit from this in many ways right from setting up industries to spreading their business in the state and location of their choice.
- A sense of competitiveness will grow stronger and can only do well. So, it will be a win- win situation for everyone, local, state and the nation as a whole. Thereby the whole socio-economic scenario will change.

### **Few areas of concerns**

Although the vision is commendable but there will be few road blocks in front of the new government to fulfill this dream of an IIM and IIT in every state. Few points of concerns are:

- The new IIMs established earlier are already reeling under a lack of infrastructure and experienced faculty. To establish such institutes, the government needs to tread cautiously. It has to ensure that whatever institutes are established, are able to deliver quality education to the highest number of students possible.
- Government must first try to enhance the capacity of the current IIMs and IITs by increasing seats and faculties rather than opening new one. Indian IIMs and IITs have not increased their intake capacity in comparison to other Top Institute around the world. Government must take steps to increase the depth of these Institutions rather than focusing on breadth.
- As per experts, Setting up an IIT on an average costs Rs 1,750 crore and an IIM and central university need Rs 1,000 crore each. This excludes the cost of land that state governments have to acquire and hand over to the central government free. The Narendra Modi government will have to take this expansion in a phase wise manner, taking few states at a time rather than at a one go.
- Government has to do his ground work before planning this huge expansion. Work on infrastructure, faculty and quality of primary and secondary education is required for the success of this initiative.
- Lack of developed infrastructure, number of Quality permanent faculties are two of the biggest road blocks for this initiative. The government and the HRD Ministry has to solve this issue in order to reap the benefits of their future plans.

Whatever be the concerns, providing quality education to a wider section of the society is the need of time for India. Being a developing economy and in order to support this growth, a fair growth in the output of well educated and highly qualified individuals is absolutely essential.

Thus it will be interesting to see the next step towards this project from the Narendra Modi government and the HRD Ministry. Students on the other hand should be happy as the chances of studying from the premiere institute of management and technology will increase.

## **AICTE approves 7,154 more engineering seats in Gujarat**

TNN | Jun 12, 2014, 03.33 AM IST

<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/home/education/news/AICTE-approves-7154-more-engineering-seats-in-Gujarat/articleshow/36407195.cms>

AHMEDABAD: Here's some good news! The All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) has approved increased intake capacity in existing colleges by 5,354 seats, taking the total number of approved seats for engineering to 70,115.

The 70,115 capacity includes 1,800 seats in the six new colleges approved by the AICTE.

At present, there are 62,951 engineering seats. Officials said that of the six new colleges, three will be in Ahmedabad, while one each will be in Rajkot, Vallabh Vidyanagar and Navsari.

Officials said that the AICTE has already issued letter of intent for these six colleges and now the apex body will send the final approval.

Officials said also some of the new colleges will also be given approval in diploma category.

They said that with the capacity of 70,000 odd seats, only 69,741 have cleared their examination from Gujarat board. Of these 69,741 students, only 63,000 are eligible for admission.

Sources said that this year, students have applied in faculties which are most sought-after, including civil, mechanical, electrical and computers. Officials said that in 2007-08, the number of students who wanted admissions were more than the available seats. But now, almost all students who clear their examination with 45% or above marks make it to engineering colleges. Despite this, over 9000 seats had fallen vacant last year.

However, officials said that the vacant seats were mainly in colleges which do not have good infrastructure or are not located within the city.

This year too, it is expected were expectation that around 12000 odd seats may lie vacant and this would be in the lower branches where students prefer not to take admission.

## **IIT-B develops tech to cut fuel consumption at telecom towers**

Written by [Mihika Basu](#) | Mumbai | June 12, 2014 10:54 am

<http://indianexpress.com/article/cities/mumbai/iit-b-develops-tech-to-cut-fuel-consumption-at-telecom-towers/>

A group of researchers at IIT Bombay have developed an innovative technology which will reduce fuel consumption at telecom towers across the country and is expected to bring down energy costs by at least 10 per cent. The technology developed is a “cost optimisation tool” that determines the best strategy for each telecom tower site instead of group-based evaluation that is followed presently, according to the researchers. The technology, said researchers, is expected to bring an industry-wide saving of Rs 2000 crore annually.

“The current energy spending at telecom tower sites stands at Rs 19,100 crore per annum and diesel constitutes approximately 45 per cent of the total power and fuel expenses. The industry is trying hard to check the cost escalation due to inflation in diesel price rise,” said Rushabh Shah, who worked at TICET (Tata Teleservices IIT Bombay Centre of Excellence in Telecom) and is the founder of Optenet, which is helping commercialise this technology.

TICET is a joint venture between IIT Bombay, Tata Teleservices Limited and Department of Telecommunications, Government of India.

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The solution developed includes a simulation environment where the operator can evaluate different cost saving strategies. For each telecom site, the tool continuously monitors and records the day-to-day data. Based on the data, it suggests the optimisation strategy, which could include solar panels or wind energy or fuel cells among others and accordingly tells the operator where they should invest.

“It has been field tested by a leading infrastructure provider. We have ongoing engagements with several major cellular operators and infrastructure providers, aimed at widescale rollout of our technology. We expect to deploy our solution at over 50,000 sites in this financial year,” he said.

Shah said that the estimated reduction is 100 million litre of diesel and 2.6 lakh tonnes of carbon dioxide emissions in the first year of deployment. Focused trials with telecom infrastructure providers have shown reduction in operational expenditure in the range of 25-50 per cent across geographies. The expected savings on energy costs is over 10 per cent for largescale deployment.

“As per the guidelines of the Department of Telecommunications, 50 per cent of the telecom sites in rural areas and 33 per cent in urban areas will have to go green by the next year-end. Our technology would enable the operator meet these guidelines in the most cost-efficient manner,” said Shah.

## **IIT-Gn, SAC of ISRO sign MoU for research collaboration**

**IIT-Gn students will undertake research internships at SAC on joint research projects of common interest to IIT-Gn and SAC**

[http://www.business-standard.com/article/current-affairs/iit-gn-sac-of-isro-sign-mou-for-research-collaboration-114060900846\\_1.html](http://www.business-standard.com/article/current-affairs/iit-gn-sac-of-isro-sign-mou-for-research-collaboration-114060900846_1.html)

**BS Reporter | Ahmedabad**

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The Indian Institute of Technology Gandhinagar (IIT-Gn) is teaming up with Space Applications Centre ([SAC](#)) of Indian Space Research Organization ([ISRO](#)) for research collaboration in the areas of electronics, signal and image processing, electro-optical systems modeling.

In this regard, IIT-Gn and SAC signed a memorandum of understanding ([MoU](#)) at the latter’s campus to promote active collaboration between the two institutes. Under the MoU, IIT-Gn students will undertake research internships at SAC on joint research projects of common interest to IIT-Gn and SAC. In turn, IIT-Gn will host scientists from SAC who wish to engage in teaching and research, and those interested in pursuing a higher degree. Moreover, as a part of signing the MoU, a delegation of IIT-Gn faculty members visited various facilities at SAC and interacted with their scientists.

Signing the MoU, IIT-Gn director Sudhir Jain and SAC director AS Kiran Kumar, emphasised that the collaboration will allow both the institutes to explore opportunities and result in significant research output in areas of electronics, signal and image processing, among others.

“This is a partnership between two prestigious national institutes, SAC with the IIT-Gn, which is a host to highly energetic and motivated young students. This partnership will be thus mutually beneficial considering that both institutes are involved with development of complex state of the art technologies,” said Jain.

Jain added that the exposure of young minds during internships to interesting projects and state-of-the-art facilities early on will motivate them to take up even bigger challenges in the field of aerospace research. Some of the IIT-Gn students who already working as interns at SAC presented their project highlights in the meeting.

The students are working on projects such as electronics, control system for navigation and modeling under various senior scientists. Sensor Development Area Deputy director Saji A Kuriakose stressed upon the development of a miniature airborne platform, which will find significant use in local remote sensing.

Apart from SAC, IIT-Gn has ongoing MoUs with several companies, such as [Underwriters Laboratories](#) (UL), The [Ricoh Company](#) Ltd and [Nielsen LLC](#). The institute recently held a one-day Industry Partnership Retreat aimed at developing a road map for engaging with industry in an effective and sustainable manner.

## India, Germany discuss opportunities in education

NEW DELHI: India and Germany today discussed opportunities for collaboration in the field of education.

<http://economictimes.indiatimes.com/industry/services/education/india-germany-discuss-opportunities-in-education/articleshow/36402836.cms>

"Human Resource Development Minister Smriti Irani discussed collaboration opportunities for education and vocational training with German Ambassador to India Michael Steiner, who paid a courtesy call in her office," a Ministry release said.

In the meeting, the Ambassador mentioned the demographic advantage of India and reiterated his country's commitment to strengthen partnerships with India in higher education, research, vocational education and training.

Irani reiterated India's commitment to collaborate with Germany and appreciated the Indo-German Strategic Partnership (IGSP) in Higher Education.

Highlighting that her ministry has already released funds under this initiative, she said that she was looking forward to the final selection of the program's research and fellowship awardees, during the next Indo-German Joint Working Group meeting on Higher Education scheduled in November.