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HRD seeks public approval on IIM bill

Brajesh Kumar

NEW DELHI: A proposed legislation by the National Democratic Alliance (NDA) government could result in severe curtailment of academic and financial autonomy of Indian Institutes of Management (IIMs) including freedom to decide their own fee structure.

The move is reminiscent of the failed attempt of HRD minister in the last NDA government, Murli Manohar Joshi, to take away the power of the IIMs to decide on the fee structure and vest it with the HRD ministry.

A draft bill put on the HRD ministry website for public comments proposes that the IIMs will need the "approval" of the HRD ministry before notifying any change in the fee structure and even salary and remuneration paid to its employees. The IIMs has been paying incentives to its faculty for attaining high academic excellence and gets its fee structure vetted by the Board of Governors.

A DRAFT BILL ON THE HRD MINISTRY WEBSITE PROPOSES THAT IIMS WILL NEED MINISTRY APPROVAL ON FEE STRUCTURE, ADMISSION CRITERIA AND GRANTS

The draft bill further seeks ministry's approval to decide on the admission criteria, giving scholarship and fellowships to the students and even construction of new building blocks.

The IIMs, as per the proposed law, will have to take ministry's permission to decide on how to conduct its Board of Governors meetings, the highest decision making bodies for the IIMs.

Such decisions under current practice are taken by the governing board, academic councils and the director without any approval by the government. The HRD ministry steps in matters such as appointments of chairpersons and directors.

CORPORATE MAKEOVER

Govt plays safe, puts draft IIM bill up for debate

HRD ministry puts draft bill on crowdsourcing website mygov.in, inviting comments and suggestions

By PRASHANT K. NANDA
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NEW DELHI

A draft bill to improve the governance of Indian Institutes of Management (IIMs) proposes to set up a coordination forum and formalize a closer scrutiny of the premier B-schools—from directors' tenures to a corporate-style annual report with details of the highest-paid employees.

The draft bill also proposes a four-year term for the chairman of the board of governors instead of the current five years and seeks to keep the number of board member to 15 across all IIMs.

"What the government is trying to do is keep a close watch on the functioning of these institutes without infringing upon their autonomy," a government official said, requesting that he not be named.

The human resource development (HRD) ministry has now put up the draft bill on *mygov.in*, the government's crowdsourcing website, inviting comments and suggestions.

A second government official said the draft bill "has tried to explain the role of different stakeholders", as the 2008 R.C. Bhargava Committee report on IIMs had suggested that responsibility be fixed on "key players" to improve accountability at these institutes. This official, too, requested anonymity.

"Divided responsibility for governance, and lack of clarity of

HEMANT MISHRA/MINT

Streamlining governance: *The draft bill proposes to set up a coordination forum and formalize a closer scrutiny of the premier B-schools.*

the role of government, boards, chairman and the directors has meant that none of the key players has any real accountability for results," the Bhargava committee said.

The committee had also suggested that the boards of IIMs be reconstituted and consist of 11 members against the present 24-26. Six of these would be independent professionals and the other five would be: a nominee each of the central government, state government, faculty, and the chairman and director. No person should be a board member for more than six years, with a single term of three years. Board members would be expected to have a minimum of 75% attendance.

The second government official said the draft bill aims to streamline the functioning and governance of IIMs.

On the director's role, the draft bill says the person shall function as the chief executive officer of the institute and present an annual report. In the report, the director shall mention the key achievements and

targets—from shortfalls in expenditure to surplus of income, appointment of faculty members and officers, performance indicators and internal standards set by the institute, including innovation in teaching, research and application of knowledge.

"The report of the director shall also include a statement showing the names of the five officers, including faculty members and other employees of the institute, who received the highest remuneration (including allowances and other payments made to such employee) during the financial year and the contributions made by such employees during the financial year," the draft bill said.

It shall also indicate whether any such employee is a relative of a member of the board or academic council of the institute and "if so, the name of such member; and such other particulars".

An IIM professor said though the draft bill has clearly mentioned that a chairman of the board can be selected for a sec-

ond term, it is silent on the appointment of a director. "It means they don't want a director to get more than a single term. The logic is ambiguous," said the professor. He, however, said having a fixed number of board members will lead to better decision-making.

But both the government officials cited above said more than the content of the bill, the HRD ministry is intrigued that the cabinet has sent back the bill for public comments after keeping it with itself for more than 10 weeks.

"We had done the consultations with key stakeholders and thought it would be enough, but higher authorities told us to put it up in public," said another government official, adding that the government is perhaps thinking that after public scrutiny it will be easier to get Parliament's nod.

The official said the "huge IIM lobby", in an election year in some states, can create a problem for the bill in Parliament.

"Opposition political parties have become very active ahead of the Bihar assembly election later this year and the huge IIM lobby will lap up the issue. Like labour reforms, the government will be accused of going ahead arbitrarily without enough consultation. Public scrutiny may delay the bill by a few more months," said the official.

Shikhar Mohan, an IIM Indore alumnus, said putting the bill in the public domain is a welcome move. He suggested that the bill should allow one-year courses at IIMs to get MBA status keeping in mind international trends. Mohan said some 400 IIM alumni and students plan to send a petition to the HRD ministry and the Prime Minister's Office outlining these proposals.

Fees to admissions, draft bill threatens IIM autonomy

Brajesh Kumar
■ brajesh.kumar@hindustantimes.com

NEW DELHI: A proposed legislation of the NDA government could lead to the academic and financial autonomy of the prestigious Indian Institutes of Management being severely curtailed, including the freedom to decide their fee structure.

According to the draft bill, the IIMs will need the "approval" of the HRD ministry before notifying any change in fee structure or in salaries and remuneration paid to employees. These institutes currently reward faculty with financial incentives for attaining high academic excellence.

The draft bill further seeks ministry approval for decisions on admission criteria, scholarships and fellowships and construction of new blocks. Approval will also have to be sought on how to conduct meetings of its boards of governors — the highest decision-making bodies for the IIMs.

Currently, all such decisions are taken by the governing boards, academic councils and directors without any government interference. The HRD ministry only steps in on matters such as appointing a chairperson of the governing body and the IIM directors.

The move — reminiscent of a failed attempt by the last NDA government to take away the powers of the IIMs on deciding fee structure and vesting it with the ministry — has been attacked by academics who say it will deal a body blow to the autonomy of the IIMs, some of them among the top 50 global MBA rankings.

IIM Autonomy

It also comes in the wake of a row over the process for selection of IIT directors that resulted in severe criticism of the Smriti Irani-led HRD ministry.

"Autonomy and independence to work is key to driving innovation in any great institution. A bill like this is the surest way to kill innovation. This kind of interference is unwarranted," said Pritam Singh, former director of IIM-Lucknow.

Officials in the HRD ministry, however, maintained the draft bill was only a preliminary step towards finalizing the actual bill, which would take into account views from all quarters.

There's no dearth of applicants, but institutes fall short of competent candidates by up to 40%; they are now beefing up research opportunities, compensation packages

Wanted: Faculty that Fits the Bill at IITs

Prachi.Verma@timesgroup.com

New Delhi: With the undergraduate class of 2019 set to enter India's premier technology institutes in a month's time, here is a shocker. Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs) are facing a faculty shortage of 30-40%. There is no dearth of people interested in the job, but often these candidates don't match the requirements of the top tech schools.

At IIT Kharagpur, the shortage based on the ideal ratio of one faculty member for every 10 students is more than 40%.

It needs 435 more faculty members for the existing student base of over 10,000. IIT-Bombay, which currently has 687 faculty members including part-timers, has a shortage of 213. Other IITs fare no better.

The problem lies in the availability of quality faculty members, said Kushal Sen, dean faculty at IIT Delhi. The IIT is usually flooded with hundreds of applications at any given time.

"Only three to five of the hundreds of applications that we receive are worth selecting," said Sen. IIT Delhi hires around 30 faculty members every year. It tries to attract talent by doling out research grants of ₹1 lakh for peripheral and ₹10 lakh for equipment. It currently has 523 faculty members for 7,800 students.

Fearing it will lose competent faculty to competition, IIT Kanpur recently closed a hiring in less than two weeks compared with the usual three to six weeks.

"It was a question of losing out this professor to competition had we prolonged, hence we had to quickly close this with an offer letter," explained Manindra Agarwal, IIT-Kanpur's dean for faculty affairs. Other IITs are also working round the clock in getting good faculty talent as well as promptly closing the hiring.
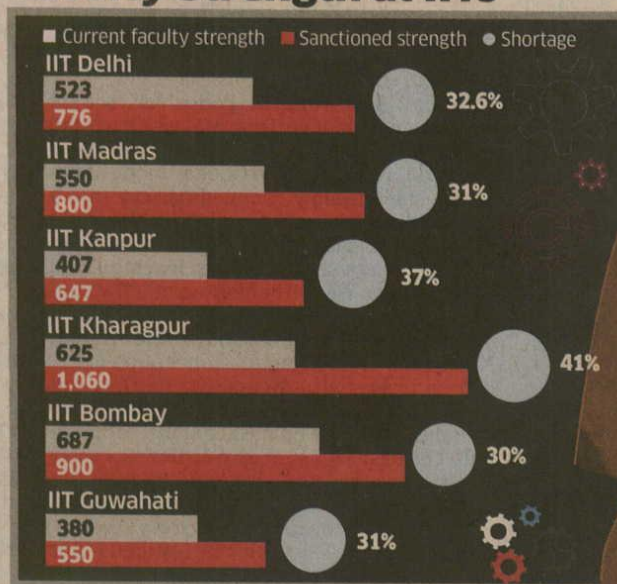
Most of the IITs are looking overseas to meet the demand for faculty.

Of the new faculty hired in the past five years, around half are foreigners at IIT-Bombay. IITs in Delhi, Guwahati, Gandhinagar and Kanpur are all trying to grab the best from overseas.

IIT-Kanpur has an office in New York while at other IITs, representatives are sent overseas to scout for faculty.

According to Vineet Nayar, founder of Sampark Foundation and former CEO at HCL Technologies, inadequate research opportunities are keeping many competent people away from joining IITs are faculty members.

Faculty Strength at IITs

Legend: □ Current faculty strength ■ Sanctioned strength ● Shortage

IIT Delhi
523
776 — 32.6%

IIT Madras
550
800 — 31%

IIT Kanpur
407
647 — 37%

IIT Kharagpur
625
1,060 — 41%

IIT Bombay
687
900 — 30%

IIT Guwahati
380
550 — 31%

"Unfortunately as a nation we have lost our charm for teaching as a profession. Research is great but only in patches at the IITs in India. Corporate interest and funding both are low in research. Demand for these researchers in the corporate world is low and thus for a high potential faculty, it is unattractive to work in such an environment," Nayar said.

For newer IITs, attrition is a major problem. Until recently, faculty members were leaving every two to three months at IIT-Guwahati, said Pinakeswar Mahanta, head of mechanical engineering.

Most of the leading IITs are busy working around making the compensation packages more attractive. In the form of chair professorship or research grants, IITs are trying their best to lure teaching talent with better packages. For instance, starting this year, IIT Madras is initiating 'Institute Chair Professorship' wherein the chosen faculty will get additional compensation of ₹25,000 per month apart from space and funding for research.

Using donations largely from the alumni community, IIT Kanpur also offers a top-up salary of ₹25,000 or even more to monthly compensation.

Most IITs are looking overseas to meet the demand for faculty; newer IITs also face an attrition problem
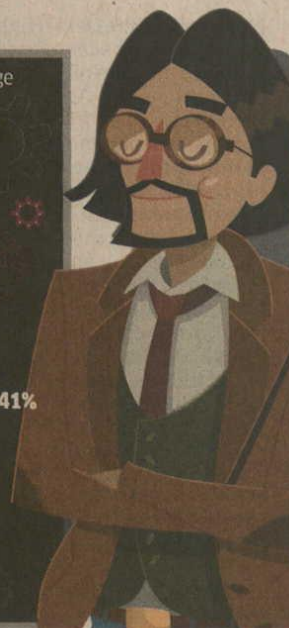
Sensing that research is a big draw for competent faculty, IIT Madras is adding two research centres every year. "We have initiated a ramp-up research centre which would help us to attract and retain faculty," said R David Koilpillai, dean (Planning).

Subramanian Ramadorai, chairman of the National Skill Development Corporation and National Skill Development Agency as well as former vice chairman at Tata Consultancy Services, said: "The current faculty at the IITs is world-class but surely they face a severe shortage. They (IITs) have to be bold enough to address this challenge by sprucing up research activities."

IIT Kanpur has total faculty of 407 for 6,477 students, a ratio of 1:16. It is aiming to reach 450 faculty members next year, but that will still fall short of the ideal ratio of 1:10. At IIT Kharagpur, the existing faculty strength is a little over 625, while the sanctioned strength is 1,060.

"Retaining good faculty is proving a bigger hurdle than hiring faculty as we are facing a huge problem due to lack of space (office, laboratory, hostel, etc.) and infrastructure," IIT Kanpur director Indranil Manna said.

Last year, IIT Bombay conducted two cycles of interviews for faculty. "We will continue to do so," said director Devang Khakhar.

Economic Times 12/06/2015 p-8

IITs में पढ़ाने वालों की भारी कमी

नहीं मिल रहे काबिल कैंडिडेट: IIT में फैकल्टी 40% तक कम, जॉब हासिल करने की इच्छा रखने वालों की कमी नहीं, लेकिन अक्सर कैंडिडेट बेस्ट इंजीनियरिंग कॉलेजों की शर्तों को पूरा नहीं कर पाते
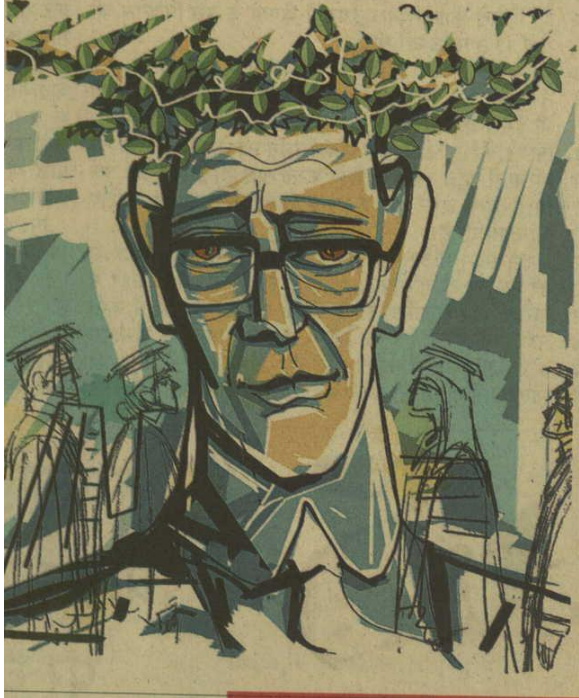
| प्राची वर्मा | नई दिल्ली |

इंडियन इंस्टीट्यूट ऑफ टेक्नोलॉजी (आईआईटी) की यह खबर आपको सदमे में डाल सकती है। देश के इन प्रीमियर संस्थानों में फैकल्टी की संख्या 30-40 फीसदी कम है। ऐसा नहीं है कि इस जॉब में एकेडमिक वर्ल्ड के लोगों की दिलचस्पी नहीं है, लेकिन अक्सर ये उम्मीदवार देश के बेस्ट इंजीनियरिंग कॉलेजों की शर्तों को पूरा नहीं कर पाते। आईआईटी खड़गपुर में फैकल्टी स्टूडेंट्स रेशियो तय स्टैंडर्ड से 40 फीसदी से भी कम है।

कायदे से हर 10 स्टूडेंट्स पर एक फैकल्टी होनी चाहिए। यहां के 10,000 से भी ज्यादा स्टूडेंट्स के लिए और 435 फैकल्टी मेंबर्स की जरूरत है। आईआईटी-बॉम्बे में फिलहाल 687 फैकल्टी मेंबर्स हैं, जिसमें पार्ट टाइम टीचर्स भी शामिल हैं। संस्थान में कुल 213 फैकल्टी मेंबर्स की कमी है। आईआईटी की बाकी इकाइयों का भी कुछ ऐसा ही हाल है। आईआईटी-दिल्ली में डीन फैकल्टी कुशल सेन कहना है कि असली मुश्किल क्वॉलिटी फैकल्टी मेंबर्स की अवलेबिलिटी का है। आईआईटी में फैकल्टी के लिए आमतौर पर एप्लिकेशन की भरमार होती है।

सेन ने बताया, 'औसतन 5 में से 3 एप्लिकेशन हमें विचार करने लायक लगते हैं।' आईआईटी दिल्ली हर साल तकरीबन 30 फैकल्टी मेंबर्स की भर्ती करती है। इस संस्थान में 7,800 स्टूडेंट्स हैं, जिनके लिए 523 फैकल्टी मेंबर्स हैं। कॉम्पिटिशन के इस दौर में काबिल टीचर्स की भर्ती में पीछे छू जाने के डर से आईआईटी-कानपुर ने दो हफ्ते से भी कम में हायरिंग की प्रक्रिया पूरी कर ली, जबकि आमतौर पर इसमें 3 से 6 हफ्ते का वक्त लगता था। आईआईटी-कानपुर में फैकल्टी मामले के डीन मनिन्द्र अग्रवाल ने बताया, 'अगर हम भर्ती की प्रक्रिया को लंबा खींचते तो हम इस प्रोफेसर के गंवा देने का खतरा था, लिहाजा हमने जल्द से जल्द इस प्रक्रिया को खत्म कर ऑफर लेटर तैयार कर लिया।'

बाकी आईआईटी संस्थान भी बेहतर फैकल्टी हासिल करने के लिए भरपूर कोशिश में जुटे हैं। फैकल्टी की डिमांड पूरी करने के लिए ज्यादातर संस्थान विदेशी टैलेंट का रुख कर रहे हैं। आईआईटी-बॉम्बे में पिछले पांच साल में जितने टीचर्स की भर्ती हुई, उनमें आधे विदेशी हैं।

दिल्ली, गुवाहाटी और कानपुर में मौजूद आईआईटी भी विदेश से बेस्ट टैलेंट की भर्ती में जुटे हैं। आईआईटी कानपुर का ऑफिस न्यूयॉर्क में है, जबकि बाकी आईआईटी फैकल्टी की तलाश के लिए अपने प्रतिनिधियों को विदेश भेजती हैं। संपर्क फाउंडेशन के फाउंडर और एचसीएल टेक्नोलॉजीज के पूर्व सीईओ विनीत नायर के मुताबिक, रिसर्च के अपर्याप्त मौकों के कारण कई काबिल लोग फैकल्टी के तौर पर आईआईटी ज्वाइन नहीं कर पाते हैं।

उन्होंने कहा, 'दुर्भाग्य से एक देश के तौर पर हम टीचिंग प्रोफेशन का आकर्षण गंवा चुके हैं। कुछ अच्छी रिसर्च हो रही है, लेकिन सिर्फ कुछ आईआईटी इकाइयों में। रिसर्च में कॉरपोरेट फंडिंग और उनकी दिलचस्पी दोनों कम है।' आईआईटी की नई यूनिट्स में फैकल्टी का छोड़कर जाना एक बड़ी समस्या है।

IITs facing faculty shortage by up to 40%; beefing up compensation packages to attract talents

http://economictimes.indiatimes.com/jobs/iits-facing-faculty-shortage-by-up-to-40-beefing-up-compensation-packages-to-attract-talents/articleshow/47636795.cms

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Other IITs are also working round the clock in getting good faculty talent as well as promptly closing the hiring. Most of the IITs are looking overseas to meet the demand for faculty.

Of the new faculty hired in the past five years, around half are foreigners at IITBombay. IITs in Delhi, Guwahati, Gandhinagar and Kanpur are all trying to grab the best from overseas. IIT-Kanpur has an office in New York while at other IITs, representatives are sent overseas to scout for faculty. According to Vineet Nayar, founder of Sampark Foundation and former CEO at HCL Technologies, inadequate research opportunities are keeping many competent people away from joining IITs are faculty members.
"Unfortunately as a nation we have lost our charm for teaching as a profession. Research is great but only in patches at the IITs in India. Corporate interest and funding both are low in research. Demand for these researchers in the corporate world is low and thus for a high potential faculty, it is unattractive to work in such an environment," Nayar said.

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Last year, IIT Bombay conducted two cycles of interviews for faculty. "We will continue to do so," said director Devang Khakhar.

Others

Shaken by suicides, IIT-B takes new measures to calm beautiful minds

http://www.mumbaimirror.com/mumbai/others/Shaken-by-suicides-IIT-B-takes-new-measures-to-calm-beautiful-minds/articleshow/47635633.cms

The institute will seek help from renowned psychiatrist Vikram Patel to improve counselling of students, also organise orientation workshop in July for parents.

Two suicides and one attempted suicide within ten months by some of their best and the brightest has prompted Indian Institute of Technology Bombay to take radical steps to help students in distress.

Speaking to this newspaper on Thursday, IITB director Devang Khakhar and dean of student affairs, Soumyo Mukherjee, revealed they have done away with the earlier rule under which students could be referred to a mental health counsellor only through the dean of student affairs. Both men said that given the sensitivities involved, it was imperative to maintain discretion and anonymity of the distressed student.

Learnings from the tragic suicide of their students Ankit Ambhore and Jitesh Sharma has prompted IIT to organize an orientation workshop next month exclusively targeted at parents.

In addition, the institute is planning to call on the expertise of Vikram Patel, psychiatrist and Professor of International Mental Health at the London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine, who was recently named among the 100 most influential people in the world by TIME magazine, and who happens to be Khakhar's brother-in-law.

Following the launch of a Facebook page, I Care, last year IIT Bombay has now also deployed senior students to watch out for signs of depression among its juniors.

Stating that academic pressure is not the only cause for suicidal tendencies, Khakhar said over the past few years students at the undergraduate level have been under a lot of pressure from their family and friends as well. "If the students are not doing very well academically, then they are not going to get the big job in the end which puts pressure especially on students who have built a backlog. From our end we have cut down on the credits so that academic pressure is not that high in terms of workload."

Khakhar who has been IIT director for over six years, says the institute had asked Aniket Ambhore who jumped off the terrace in September last year, and who had a keen interest in music, to take a year off to focus on his other interests. However, apparently his parents had dissuaded him from doing so. "Taking time off is never an issue at IIT Bombay provided there is a valid reason," says Khakhar adding that often students feel the pressure from their family to finish the course within four years and participate in the placements.

Khakhar, who himself enrolled at IIT Delhi as a student in 1976, says suicide on campus was not unheard of even in those days. "It's not as if cases of students committing suicide have started now but it is very difficult to identify students who are on the verge of taking extreme steps (as opposed to) students who are just plain unhappy."

Urging students to not be worried about backlogs he says IIT Bombay, unlike other Indian Universities, does not fail a student. Emphasising the flexibility of the academic curriculum, Khakhar says, "If a student has earned many backlogs, then the student can take five years instead of four to clear the papers. Students should be more worried about the

education they get rather than how many years it takes them to finish it."

WORRYING SIGNS

June 1: A 23-year-old student, pursuing a dual degree in MSc and PhD in earth sciences, tried to kill himself by repeatedly banging his head against a wall in his hostel room. He also slashed his wrists before consuming a poisonous substance.

May 2: Jitesh Sharma, a 21-year-old student of chemical engineering, was found dead on a hostel terrace. Sharma committed suicide by consuming a chemical.

September 4, 2014: Aniket Ambhore, a dual degree student in electrical engineering, fell to his death from the sixth floor of the hostel building. He was also undergoing treatment for depression.

आईआईटी का कामकाज मोदी सरकार में ठप

धीरज कनोजिया

नई दिल्ली। नरेंद्र मोदी सरकार में उच्च शिक्षण संस्थानों के कामकाज को लेकर सवाल खड़े हो रहे हैं। खासकर आईआईटी निदेशक के पद को लेकर नियुक्तियां नहीं हो रही हैं। हिमाचल प्रदेश के आईआईटी मंडी और मध्य प्रदेश के आईआईटी इंदौर में निदेशक की नियुक्ति में लगातार देर हो रही है।

वहीं 2014 में मोदी सरकार की ओर से घोषित पांच आईआईटी में से सिर्फ दो, केरल और आंध्र प्रदेश में ही अगले शैक्षणिक सत्र से दाखिला शुरू हो सकेगा। अगले सत्र को लगभग एक महीना ही रह गया है। इन दोनों आईआईटी में भी अस्थायी कैंपस से दाखिला शुरू हो पाएगा। यही नहीं, छह साल पहले मंजूर होने वाली आठ आईआईटी में से एक का भी स्थायी कैंपस तैयार नहीं हो पाया है। सभी आईआईटी अस्थायी कैंपस से चल रहे हैं। वहीं प्रधानमंत्री नरेंद्र मोदी के बिहार में आईआईटी पटना के स्थायी कैंपस

▶ आईआईटी मंडी और इंदौर में निदेशक पद की नियुक्ति लंबे समय से लटकी

2014 में घोषित जम्मू, छत्तीसगढ़ और गोवा आईआईटी में शुरू नहीं हो पाएगा दाखिला

का महीने के आखिर में उद्घाटन करने की बात चल रही है। माना जा रहा है बिहार में होने वाले चुनाव में फायदा लेने के लिए सरकार स्थायी कैंपस शुरू करने में दिलचस्पी ले रही है।

आईआईटी मंडी और मध्य प्रदेश में निदेशक पद की नियुक्ति महीनों से लटकी हुई है। मानव संसाधन और विकास मंत्री के स्तर पर निर्णय लटकने की बात है। दूसरी तरफ 2014 में जम्मू, छत्तीसगढ़, आंध्र प्रदेश, गोवा और केरल में आईआईटी बनने का ऐलान हुआ था। मानव संसाधन विकास मंत्रालय ने दावा किया था कि पांचों आईआईटी अगले शैक्षणिक सत्र से दाखिला शुरू कर देंगे।

Forget Zealotry, Focus on Reform

MHRD must focus on education, not past glory

In the global ranking of universities by Times Higher Education, India has four slots in the first 400. Two figure in the 275-300 range and two more in the 350-400 range. Now, it is not the case that such rankings are entirely objective (reputation is obviously a fuzzy factor). But this is no defence for Indian universities failing to find a single place in the top 200 universities of the world. Clearly, the ministry of human resources development (MHRD) is barking up the wrong tree when it spends its time and energy silencing dissident student organisations and stuffing research councils and educational planning and administration bodies with zealots of India's ancient glory.

Universities underpin the modern knowledge economy. Creating new knowledge, finding new applications for existing knowledge, training people in the state-of-the-art even while equipping them to think of new possibilities and work for these in a systematic fashion, cumulatively expanding the scope of human endeavour — this is what universities do. In India, universities make news for the scramble for admissions, high-value placements, high-handedness by administrators, academic disaffection and general dysfunction; rarely for new breakthroughs in research or high honour for faculty or alums. This cannot be changed by bringing in foreign universities. Painstaking, collaborative reform is the only way forward. This calls for consultation, engagement, perseverance and patience, not diktat or straitjackets for campuses.

Nor can good universities be built on the base of a lousy school system. And good schools are not a function of greater funding alone. Local communities must be empowered to have a say in school appointments and management. Teachers must be trained but allowed pedagogical leeway while holding them to account for outcomes. Norms must be set and standards tested. Rote learning must give way to the forging of critical faculties and the nursing of the passion to achieve and excel. MHRD's revealed priorities show not an inkling of awareness of the challenge at hand.

Deccan Herald ND 12/06/2015   P-8

IISc makes it to Asia's top 100 universities

India's progress falters, only nine institutes figure in coveted list

NEW DELHI: The Indian Institute of Science (IISc),Bangalore, makes it to the Times Higher Education ranking of top 100 universities in Asia and secured 37th position in the list.

This is the first time that the elite institute has figured in the list since the Times Higher Education came up with its first Asia University ranking list for 2012-13.

Other institutions of India including four Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs) have fallen down from its previous positions in the ranking announced for the year 2014-15 at Shanghai in China and uploaded on the ranking body's website.

A total of nine Indian higher educational institutions including Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU) and Aligarh Muslim University (AMU) have found place in the list of top 100 in Asia. Last year, ten institutions had made it to the list.

"India's progress has faltered. It has nine top 100 universities, one less than last year," Times Higher Education said in a statement.

Jadhavpur University of Kolkata, which was ranked 76 last year, failed to find a place in the list this year. IIT Kanpur as well as IIT Guwahati, which were ranked 55 and 74 respectively last year, too could not make it to the list.

The Times Higher Education ranking indicates a consistent decline in the performance of IIT-Khargapur. The institute, which held the 30th position in the list of top 100 Asian universities in 2013, was placed at 45 last year and 69 this year.

The position of IIT Bombay, which was 33 in the 2013 list,

IISc, Bangalore

came down to 57 this year. However, IIT Delhi and IIT Madras climbed down to 65th and 78th position this year from 59 and 76 rank respectively last year.

The report, however, indicates a minor improvement in the performance of IIT Roorkee as the institute was placed at 55th position this year from 59 last year. No other IITs could make it to the list.

The JNU's position slid down to 96 from 90 last year while the AMU went down to the 90th position from 80 last year.

Japan's University of Tokyo once again was announced the best university in Asia this year,

with the international ranking body placing it at the top for the third consecutive year.

The Chinese higher educational institutions made significant strides this year. As many as 21 of them made it to the list of top 100 universities in Asia while Japan had only 10 of its institutions in the list.

The Time Higher Education measures performance of the institutions and ranks them on the basis of five group indicators — teaching and learning environment; research, citations and their influence, international outlook and industry income through innovation.
DH News Service

Economic Times 12/06/2015   p-4

Sabharwal Replaces Murthy in Top Education Advisory Board

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New Delhi: The lineup of the country's oldest and highest advisory board on education is now clear. The Prime Minister's Office (PMO) has accepted the entire list sent by the HRD ministry save one change: Rohan Narayana Murthy, son of Infosys cofounder N R Narayan Murthy, has been replaced with Manish Sabharwal, cofounder of recruitment consultancy TeamLease.

Murthy's name was among the host of scholars and policy planners that HRD minister Smriti Irani wanted to nominate to the reconstituted Central Advisory Board of Education (CABE). The cabinet secretariat sent back the list as it is this month along with the PMO's approval, but replaced Murthy, 32, with Sabharwal, 45. Sources said the secretariat hasn't given the HRD ministry any reason for dropping Murthy.

Irani and the PMO did not respond to ET's questions on Murthy being replaced with Sabharwal as of press time on Thursday. Murthy also did not respond to ET's emailed questions.

The initial selection of Murthy was much talked about and assumed significance as he had conceived of the idea of publishing the classical texts of India. He is an alumni of Cornell University and Harvard University.

His replacement, Sabharwal, has a management degree from Wharton. His firm, TeamLease has reportedly placed more than half a million people in temporary and permanent jobs since 2002. Sabharwal's firm had established a vocational education university in public-private partnership with the Gujarat government at a time when Narendra Modi was the state's CM.

CABE Also the Oldest

What is Central Advisory Board of Education (CABE)?
CABE is the oldest and highest advisor body on education. It was first established in 1920 and dissolved in 1923. CABE has been responsible for initiating widespread discussion on landmark legislations like the RTE

Why is the NDA govt reconstituting CABE?
Because the board's three-year term is coming to an end this year. Every govt has the right to nominate its choice of members at the time of reconstitution

Who is on CABE this time?
The HRD ministry had recommended Rohan Murthy, chairman IIT-Delhi; Vijay Bhatkar, VC of Gujarat Central University; SA Bari, former chairman of Editor's Guild; DN Bezboruah, VC of HNBG Central Univ; Jawaharlal Kaul and educationist Indumati Rao

Mumbai University ranked 125th among Asia peers

http://www.hindustantimes.com/higherstudies/mumbai-university-ranked-125th-among-asia-peers/article1-1357426.aspx

Mumbai University has moved up six ranks in the QS World University- Asia rankings to secure the 125 position among universities.

According to the latest QS rankings, released on Tuesday, the improvement in the varsity's rankings can be attributed to the 156% jump in the number of papers by faculty and students published in journals.

The Indian Institute of Science (IISc), Bangalore --- at the 34th position --- is the first Indian institution in the list, which has only three Indian universities in the top 50. National University of Singapore remained the top university in Asia, according to the rankings.

Even as Mumbai University celebrates its rise in ranks, the elite Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs) have slipped several notches in the Times Higher Education (THE) Asia 2015 index, another ranking conducted by an agency based in the United Kingdom.

While IISc has also topped the THE ranking among Indian universities, taking the 37th position, IIT Delhi has slipped to rank 65 from 59 last year and IIT Kharagpur stood 69th, as against 45th in 2014. IIT Madras also slipped two ranks from last year to rank 78. Only IIT Roorkee has improved its position slightly, moving up four slots to rank 55 in 2015.

Gautam Biswas, director of IIT Guwahati, said that rankings are crucial as they act as indicators on a global scale. "Indian universities are in dire need of autonomy to be able to function at par with universities in China, Japan or USA. Industrial and research collaboration are extremely important factors, where Indian universities also fall behind" he said. He added that rankings are also very volatile and depend on which universities choose to participate in them.

According to Phil Baty, editor, THE, "It is cause for concern that India has lost ground in the league table: it has one fewer representative this year and most of those that make it have fallen down the list. With the country's massive numbers of under-25s putting further pressure on educational resources, it is more crucial than ever that India invests in research."

Times Of India ND 12/06/2015 p-9

HRD min to UGC: Notify rules on PhD in open univs

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New Delhi: Four years after University Grants Commission amended its regulation allowing open universities to conduct M Phil/PhD programmes, the HRD ministry has asked the regulator to notify it. In the absence of any notification, the amendment has not been put in operation.

The ministry's action comes in the wake of Indira Gandhi National Open University having already amended its ordinance. IGNOU has sought the Visitor's approval for its amendment but the HRD ministry cannot forward it till UGC notifies the changes in regulations.

"The IGNOU ordinance fulfills all the stipulations made in the UGC regulations," a senior IGNOU official said, adding that because of the delay, no admissions could be made M Phil/PhD in January and July sessions.

Ministry sources said there are other open universities that could benefit if UGC notifies its regulation. "There is a need to bolster research in the country," the IGNOU official said. Prof Satyakam, PhD coordinator for Hindi at IGNOU, said PhD of IGNOU can be compared with the best in India and abroad. In July 2011, UGC in its 479th meeting had amended its UGC (minimum standards for award of M Phil/PhD) Regulations-2009. It was decided that an open university may be permitted to hold M Phil/PhD programmes through distance education, subject to the condition that it does so as per the regulations. It also said the 11-point criteria laid down by the Standing Committee on M Phil/PhD Regulations, 2009 may be uploaded on UGC website and circulated to all institutions of higher education for information and further action.

Statesman ND 12/06/2015 p-2

KYS members burn Irani's effigy

STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE
New Delhi, 11 June

The activists of Krantikari Yuva Sagathan (KYS) continued their counseling sessions for Delhi University (DU) aspirants for the 7th consecutive day at the North Campus.

The counselling session, started in accordance with the DU admissions, will go on till 15 June. It caters to large number of students willing to take admissions in DU.

Subhash, Member, Delhi State Committee, KYS, said, "We get a mixed crowd, however, students belonging to government schools come in large numbers. They and their parents are very much worried about the high cut-offs. Due to huge inequality between the government and private schools, government school students lag behind every year in the cut-off race."

Expressing his anguish over high cut offs, he added, "It is very unfortunate that the cut-offs in Delhi University, which is a government University, is decided according to the high percentage of students coming from big private schools."

The students and activists of KYS also burnt the effigy of HRD Minister Smirti Irani at Vishwvidyalaya Metro Station today for imposing CBCS (Choice Based Credit System) in the regular colleges of Delhi University.

Subhash said, "The School of Open Learning's 4,50,000 correspondence students will be at great loss because their course stands devalued due to the introduction of CBCS in regular colleges. While, on the one side the MHRD is imposing 'choice' over the regular college students, it is least worried to give the correspondence students the choice of more classes, the choice of basic honours courses in Hindi, History, Economics etc."

He added, "SOL students have been raising their demand of regular classes for a long time now. What could have been reform in such times? Opening new colleges and providing regular evening college in 75 colleges of Delhi University till new colleges are built could have given access to higher education to lakhs of students of School of Open Learning. CBCS will also increase inequality among different Universities across the country."

Mail Today ND 12/06/2015 p-1

300 MUNNABHAIS TREAT DELHIITES

Despite 422 complaints by medical council about doctors with fake degrees, police have allowed 70% to practise freely

THE Delhi Police have turned a blind eye to complaints against 300 doctors with fake degrees, putting the lives of unsuspecting patients at risk. This is despite the fact that the complaints have been made by the Delhi Medical Council, a regulatory body for registered doctors and medical education in the state.

EXCLUSIVE

By **Astha Saxena** In New Delhi

While the police acted swiftly against Delhi's former law minister Jitender Singh Tomar for allegedly using fake degrees to enrol as an advocate, these 300 masqueraders treating patients without certified degrees have been virtually let off the hook.

The Delhi Medical Council has, between 2012 and 2015, asked the police to register cases against 422