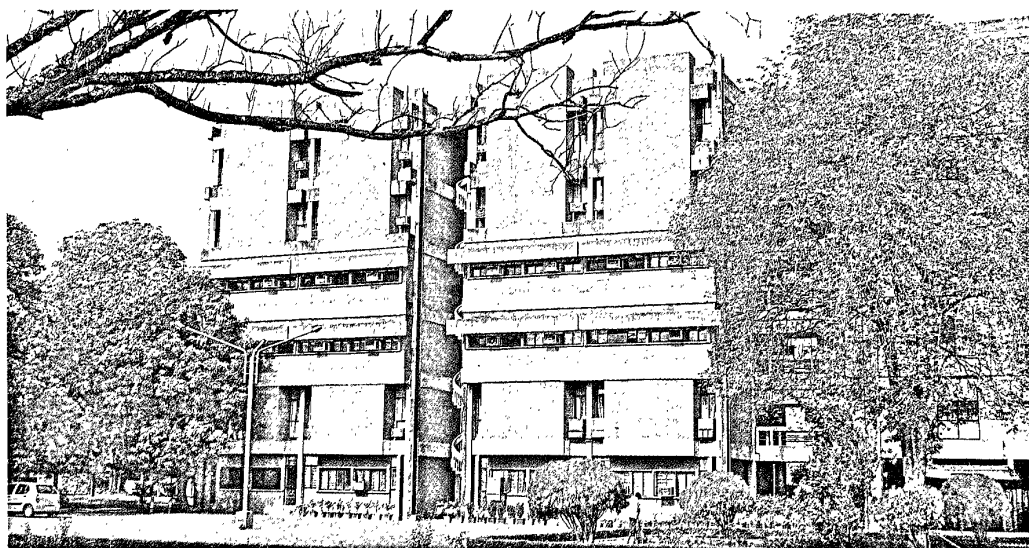


Newspaper Clips

June 17-20, 2012

June 17

Economic Times ND 17/06/2012 P-14



A section of the IIT-Kanpur campus

10 Reasons Why Sibal's IIT Formula Doesn't Work

:: Sanjeev Sanghi

1 Procedure: The new exam proposal was announced by the HRD ministry as a unilateral decision of the IIT Council against the advice and decisions of a majority of IIT faculty members, as was seen from senate deliberations. The senate is empowered by parliament through the IIT Act to decide on admission criteria.

2 Boards: While a large number of admission tests are undesirable, a single test is even more so as it is likely to lead to much more stress, and it can be unfair to a large number of students. At least two or three tests at different levels of competition provide a cushioning comfort for a large and diverse population of aspirants. The syllabi of the 42 state boards that conduct Class XII examinations vary widely. Thus, before the unification of exams, it is absolutely essential that the syllabi in all the boards are uniform. Further, the real cause of the stress on students is the extra number of exams being conducted by private colleges and other government universities (such as BITS & Vellore). These institutes should align themselves with one of the three existing government exams.

3 Marks: Using school board marks through percentile-based normalization, as proposed, is untested, and

based on questionable hypotheses. The procedure has not been fully endorsed even by the expert committee consulted for the purpose. The new scheme adds percentile marks in the board exam to actual marks being obtained by students in the new JEE exam. Percentile is indicative of rank while actual marks give a value based on the test performance. Adding the two in this way without a proper analysis is mathematically absurd. Further, the students should have an idea of how the percentage scores would be mapped to percentiles.

4 Dry Runs: Since the data from school boards is required to calculate the ranks, it is absolutely essential to have a dry run before this is implemented. In one or two state boards, Class XII results are based on both Class XI and XII. There is one board that conducts the exam in June and announces the results in August. How will such situations be accounted for? A dry run would give an idea of all the problems.

5 Schools: Students are the victims of a bad school system and not its cause. Also, attributing failure of the schooling system to engineering admission tests is to abrogate the responsibility of improving it, while serious problems such as rise of coaching and lack of

quality teachers and institutions continue to remain unaddressed.

6 Coaching: The issue of coaching classes is a social phenomenon. When only 5,000 seats are available in IITs and there are 15 lakh aspirants, it is inevitable that children or their parents will spend money to get extra help. In India, coaching flourishes for any type of examination in the form of school tuitions, coaching for IAS, IIM, GATE, bank exams, GRE, SAT etc. Coaching classes have pervaded the system further in two ways. First, they have entered schools with students getting coaching from their school itself. Second, there is a nexus between coaching classes and schools, and children get full attendance despite not attending school. The new scheme is not going to curb any of this. In fact, it will magnify the problem as coaching classes will add Class XII syllabus to their domain.

7 2013: For students aspiring to appear in JEE 2013, the IIT Council proposal is a breach of trust. Both the processes and content of the new examination will not be clear to them any time soon because work on details has not even been initiated. In no case should any new system be introduced before 2014.

8 Small Test: Many IITs had suggested that IIT-JEE be held for a small number of students following a preliminary examination so that a test for the truly talented could be designed better. The IIT Council proposal, on the other hand, ranks the top 10,000 students for IITs by merely applying a numerical filter on the results of an examination meant to select an estimated 1,00,000 out of 12,00,000 students. Clearly any such filtering will not work.

9 Trust: The trust that IIT-JEE has earned over the past five decades is due to the continuous evolution of processes and unflinching devotion of the faculty and staff of IITs. Fragmenting the responsibility of conducting the tests is likely to dissuade the IIT faculty from participating. Any test leading to ranking in IIT admissions must be wholly owned by IITs.

10 Autonomy: IITs have become what they are because they have been allowed to function independently, and set standards in carrying out their academic responsibilities. The IIT Council proposal, if implemented, will seriously compromise the autonomy so essential for IITs to remain what they are. ■



The writer teaches at IIT-Delhi. He is an alumnus of IIT-Kanpur

IIT-K mulls judicial options

DEEPAK KUMAR JHA ■
NEW DELHI

Despite Prime Minister Manmohan Singh's assurance of intervening in the row over the process for qualifying to the coveted Indian Institute of Technology, IIT Kanpur is exploring legal options to be able to conduct an entrance test on its own.

Sources in the IIT-K senate said that the council of IITs can only advise the Academic senate which is not binding on the senates, and according to legal opinions, they can still go ahead with the Joint Entrance Examination.

The IIT-K Senate has already sent their dissent note in writing to the chairman of IITs Council, HRD Ministry and chairman of the Board of Governors, IIT Kanpur.

"The recommendation process is in contradiction of the stand of Senate as represented by its chairman in the council meeting held on May 12, 2012. Consequently, the senate resolves to record its forceful dissent of the council resolution related to JEE," said Sanjay G Dhande, director, IIT-K and chairman of the Senate, in his Dissent Note to stakeholders.

"They wanted us to put the Dissent Note in writing and we have done so. Furthermore, legal opinion has been sought and in any case, the decision of either the HRD Ministry or council of IITs is not binding

testingTIMES

	IIT Bombay	IIT Delhi	IIT Madras	IIT Kanpur	IIT Kharagpur	IIT Guwahati	IIT Roorkee	Majority View
Continue current practice to 2013	Yes	Yes	No comments	Yes	Yes	Yes	Not Clear	Yes (5/7)
National common exam as screening from 2014	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No Comment	Yes	Yes (6/7)
IITs own test for screened candidates	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No Comment	Yes	Yes (6/7)
Add boards marks to JEE ranking	No	No	No	No	No	Yes	No	No (6/7)
Mechanism for overall inclusion of boards marks	Cutoff	Cutoff	Screening	Cutoff	Not clear	Not clear	Screening	

ENTRANCEEXAMFRACAS

on the senates which clearly means even if the Government is not serious in revoking its order, the Kanpur IIT will go ahead and conduct an independent entrance test," a senior senator at IIT Kanpur said over phone.

The IIT Delhi Alumni Association has already threatened that if the Centre does not change the proposed pattern, they would take the battle to court.

IIT Delhi's Regular Senate Meeting has been convened for June 21, however, sources said

that as of now, the agenda meeting does not include discussion on a separate IIT Entrance test as announced by IITK. "The Delhi IIT was perhaps anticipating that the meeting with PM might bring some surprises and that is why the JEE has, as of now, not been included in the agenda. If it is not included, then the decision to ratify the Kanpur senate opinion may be taken in a Special Senate Meeting that can be called any day," a Delhi IIT senator said, requesting anonymity. Bombay IIT's

Special Senate Meeting is scheduled for June 27.

Meanwhile, the minutes of JEE available with The Pioneer, has clearly pointed that all Academic Senates except IIT Guwahati in a meeting with the HRD Minister Kapil Sibal on May 12, 2012 opined that there should not be any changes in the examination pattern till 2013. However, the council of IITs and other stakeholders meeting chaired by HRD Minister Kapil Sibal ignored the opinion of the senates thus leading to the present predicament for all - the institutes, the Government, IIT aspirants and several guardians.

Deccan Herald ND 17.06.2012 P-11

Common Entrance Test Some IITs refuse to come under the ambit of CET saying it is flawed

One nation, One test

Prakash Kumar

With the vision of relieving aspiring engineers from the burden of writing multiple admission tests, the government recently decided to conduct a joint entrance examination for entry into all centrally funded engineering colleges, including Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs), from 2013.

The Human Resource Development Ministry planned to launch the new common entrance test, unanimously approved by the apex IIT Council, National Institutes of Technology (NITs) and Indian Institutes of Information Technology, at a joint meeting held in the national capital on May 28.

But, the implementation of the proposed test, which seeks to merge IIT-JEE (Joint Entrance Examination for admission to IITs) and AIEEE (All India Engineering Entrance Examination), has encountered a major roadblock as a section of the faculty, students and alumni of the IITs are up in arms against the examination format, citing several lacunae.

The joint entrance examination proposal has its genesis in the 'in-house' approval accorded to it by the Council of IITs in its meeting held on September 14 last year. This was based on the T Ramasami Committee report, which recommended a common national examination with weightage to marks obtained in the state board exams, and normalisation on the basis of percentile formula developed by the Indian Statistical Institute, Kolkata.

Through many IIT faculty members and alumni did not favour a common test, an opinion poll on the Ramasami report, conducted through the Central Government portal last year, saw 65 per cent of the participants favouring the reforms in the current entrance test system, while 73 per cent supported holding a national test like the scholastic aptitude test conducted in the United States.

IIT faculty came up with differing views on the proposed normalisation of the Board marks through percentile formula, weightage to be given to the examination, eligibility criteria, methodology of selection and the year of introduction of the proposed test.

IIT-Kharagpur faculty threaten hunger strike

Sabali Gupta

The IIT-Kharagpur Teachers' Association has threatened to go on a hunger strike if the Centre does not roll back the common entrance test decision through the institute's senate conveyed its support to the proposal earlier this month.

Institute Director Damodar Acharya said on June 2 that the institute had no objection to a common test and that it has been communicated to the HRD Ministry.

Speaking to Deccan Herald, Teachers' Association General Secretary Prashanta Guha said, "All the teachers who attended the May 28 meeting opposed the move. Following this, a special senate meeting was called on May 3, where non-senate member teachers participated. But, then, our director told us he could do nothing, since he had already forwarded the minutes of the May 28 senate meeting, stating that IIT-KGP agreed to the proposal". Guha, who was part of the delegation that met the Prime Minister, said, "I told the Prime Minister that it is not the responsibility of the IITs to take care of the students of state boards, whose standard is said to be deteriorating".

"There are many boards where there is no pass-fail system till class eight and how is it possible for the students passing out of these boards to make their way to the IITs, I asked the PM," Guha added. "Education is now the best business where you don't have to invest anything. Only you need to have a building and that is enough and the government is trying to promote that, a senior faculty of IIT Kharagpur said in an interview on condition of anonymity".

"By introducing the common entrance test the government is trying to destroy the IITs which have an international reputation over years, so that they can make way for the foreign universities who are coming only to do business," the professor said.

"The IIT-JEE is the best exam system in the world. It ensures the quality of our student intake," Guha said.

A faculty member of IIT-Kanpur contended that the one nation one test would put rural children at a disadvantage as it was bound to have elements of the existing JEE that tests conceptual rigour. Rural students are not exposed to the kind of rigour needed to understand fundamental principles in any domain. However, a majority of the respondents (86 per cent), who participated in the opinion poll, had favoured giving weightage to overall and consistent performance in examinations of selected institutions.

All the states had consented to the proposed common test, and many, including Maharashtra and Gujarat, expressed their eagerness to adopt it in the technical institutions coming under their jurisdiction.

Even as the government was giving a final shape to the proposed reform in February this year, the Senates of the various IITs reviewed the proposal between April 25 and May 5.

Of these seven old IITs, the Senates of IIT Guwahati, Kharagpur, Madras and Roorkee supported the proposed joint entrance examination. IIT Bombay proposed to retain the present system "with minor modifications", while IIT Kanpur's Senate wanted "substantial modification" of an HRD Ministry official said.

The views of the IIT Senates were placed before the IIT Council held on May 12, and again at the joint meeting of the Council with NITs and IITs on May 28.

The Council in its May 12 meeting observed: "By and large, the middle ground of some of the Senates expressed by IIT Senates recommend that the Class XII Board results along with the National Test (Mains) be considered as screening or gating with 40 per cent weightage to the national test being solely used for ranking purposes for admissions to undergraduate programmes".

It also took note of the proposals of some of the Senates limiting the number of candidates (about five times the number of seats for admission in the IIT system) from the screening to be considered 40 per cent weightage for performance in JEE-Advanced. It further agreed that the details of the Advanced test would be finalised in due course of time through

'One test will be benchmark'

Prof Sandeep Sancheti, Director of National Institute of Technology (NIT) Delhi, but continues to be in charge Director of NIT-Karnataka, from where he migrated. A strong supporter of the proposed merger of IIT-JEE and AIEEE to bring in a common entrance test from 2013, he is an alumnus of Regional Engineering College, Warangal and holds a doctorate from Queen's University of the UK. He is currently Chairman of Direct Admission of Students from Abroad (DASA) schemes of the HRD Ministry, whom he actively assisted in the planning and design of the proposed unified test. Excerpts of an interaction with **Ronald Anil Fernandes of Deccan Herald:**

Do you think NITs too should merge with IITs?
You may be aware that NIT-Karnataka has been maintaining the top position (best NIT in the country) for the last couple of years. The moment IITs merge, the people of Karnataka would lose an NIT, which is the best NIT in the country and much ahead of many IITs. Instead, the authorities concerned can sanction an IIT for the State. There are 20 old NITs and 10 new NITs. The NIT-K was established in 1960.

Many fear common entrance test will adversely affect quality of NITs and the graduates they produce? It should not and it will not. On the other hand, as many as 12 million students will be affected positively.

Advantages or disadvantages, if any?
The new format (CET) proposed for admission to the undergraduate programmes of IITs and other centrally

funded institutes like NITs and IITs after replacing the IIT-JEE and AIEEE, will reduce the burden on students to a great extent. Students hereforth need not write many exams for which they will have to prepare over and over. Secondly, it is proposed to hold the CET twice a year so that an unsuccessful student gets a second chance (which option is not there in the present system). Thirdly, since the students seeking admission to central institutes will have 40 per cent weightage given to their Plus Two board marks, the students' overall academic performance will be taken into account.

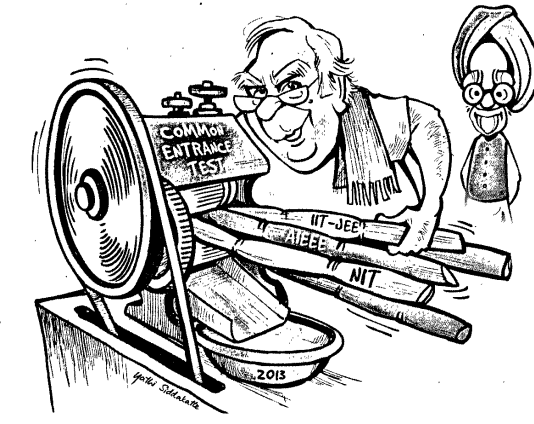
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discussion among the IITs so that it could be implemented from the year 2014.

Subsequently, the members of the Council decided to adopt the two-part joint entrance examination to be held on the same day, from year 2013.

Under this two-tier selection procedure, the Council allowed the IITs to first assess candidates on the basis of the JEE Main and their Class XII marks normalised on percentile basis, giving equal weightage to both, and screen a fixed number of students. The Council made it clear that the ranking for admission based on the joint entrance test would be based entirely on the performance in JEE-Advanced by the screened candidates.

But for other centrally funded technical institutions (CFTIs), it was decided that they would continue to be governed by the proposed policy of ranking based on 40 per cent weightage to Class XII Board marks, 30 per cent weightage to performance in JEE-Mains and another 30 per cent weightage for performance in JEE-Advanced.

The Council decided that both JEE-Main and JEE-Advanced tests would be

objective and multiple choice type. It was agreed that the Joint Admission Board (JAB) of the IIT system would have "complete control" over the academic components of the test such as paper setting, evaluation and preparation of the merit list, among others, while the CBSE will provide the administrative and logistic support for the conduct of examination across the country.

But this did not convince opponents of the common test. The Council's decision was dubbed as an "attack on the autonomy" of IITs by their alumni association. The All India IIT Faculty Federation has sought that the government restore IITs' autonomy by "officially" seeking ratification or acceptance from the various IIT Senates on the joint entrance examination finalised by IIT Council.

The Senate of IIT-Kanpur has raised a banner of protest against the Council's decision, among others, while the CBSE will provide the administrative and logistic support for the conduct of examination across the country.

The Senate authorised the Institute's director to set up a committee in consultation with the dean of academics for fi-

nancing the modalities of the entrance examination. The committee, to the extent possible, shall coordinate with other IITs to conduct the test jointly. The resolution passed by the Senate, however, is subject to approval by the Board of Governors of the IIT before it comes into effect, as per the Institute of Technology Act, 1961.

Legal route
The IIT Alumni Association has threatened to move court against the IIT Council decision. Association president Somnath Bharti contended that under the IIT Act, the IIT Council can only advise or recommend. It is the Senate of each IIT which has powers to promulgate ordinances relating to various matters, including admissions, which, of course, has to be approved by the Board of Governors.

HRD Ministry officials, however, counter the argument stating that the IIT Council can lay down policy under the IIT Act "in matters of common interest", and issue admissions to the IITs is a matter of common interest. "IIT Council is the highest decision making body of the IITs," an official said.

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Senate is mightier than the Council, says IIT-K

Sanjay Pandey

Indian Institute of Technology-Kanpur, which has decided to conduct its own entrance test from the next academic session in defiance of the union HRD minister Kapil Sibal's 'One Nation, One Test' proposal, feels that its stand is in the interest of the students and made it clear that there was no going back on the decision now.

The decision of IIT-K is being dubbed as a blunder by many as it, according to the faculty members and students, seeks to maintain the high standard of education in the institute without bothering about the consequences.

"The idea of CET for all IITs, NITs and IITs is flawed... It will dilute the quality by causing increasing stress on the students," said a faculty member of the prestigious institute.

Although representatives of IIT-K were part of the IIT faculty delegation that met Prime Minister Manmohan Singh on Friday to discuss the contentious issue, they made it clear that there will be no 're-think' on the matter. "We will go ahead with our plan to hold a separate entrance test..." Prof Deepak Gupta, an IIT-K faculty, told Deccan Herald.

Prof Gupta strongly justified the decision to chart a separate path. "We

cannot dilute the quality... the new format is full of flaws and unacceptable", he said.

The IIT-K senate had recently met and adopted a resolution to this effect. The Senate had invoked ordinance 3.2, to claim that it was fully empowered to conduct the entrance examination for admissions to its undergraduate programmes in 2013 and was even prepared to fight the battle in the courts if the Council took recourse to legal action against the institute. "It is the power of the Academic Senate is far more than the Council", the faculty members opined.

The resolution also authorised the Chairman of the Senate to form a committee for conducting JEE 2013 by IIT Kanpur and said that the undergraduate admissions committee would organise the entrance test and counselling.

United they stand
The Student Senate of the Institute has voiced its strong opposition and warned the government against tampering with the autonomy of the institute. "We will protest if the decision of the Academic Senate is overturned and the new format is thrust upon us... we will wear black badges while attending classes if that is done," said Abhai Kain, Chairman of the Student Senate.

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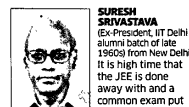
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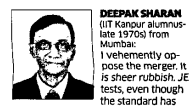
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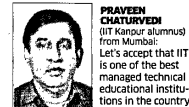
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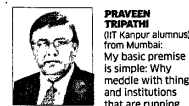
SURESH SRIVASTAVA
IIT Delhi alumni batch of late 1960s from New Delhi: It is high time that the JEE is done away with and a common exam put in place. The one who is opposing it want to protect their feudalist biases. This list is scared that the deprived and depressed sections of society may enter the hallowed portals of applied scientific institutions. At present a major chunk of IIT students are from upper class having the benefits of institutional coaching. And when they come out, a simple survey would reveal hardly one per cent contributes to technology sector... most of them end up in banks and other financial sectors.



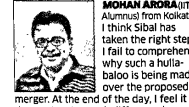
DEEPAK SHARAN
IIT Kanpur alumna late 1970s from Mumbai: I vehemently oppose the merger. It is sheer rubbish. JEE tests, even though the standards have gone down, should be kept apart. Going by Minister Sibal's logic, one should also have a common public service commission, why hold IAS and state service commission exams separately? The merger would lead to degeneration and also deprive the students, who at least now have the opportunity to knock on various doors of exams.



PRAVEEN CHATURVEDI
IIT Kanpur alumna from Mumbai: Let's accept that IIT is one of the best managed technical educational institutions in the country. And let's also accept that the stark reality that over the years the IIT entrance exams have gone for a toss. Now if we accept these hypotheses, then the logical outcome would be: more elitation to IIT grads, more different boards with different norms and yardsticks. How will you assess different gradation in 12th standard as one of the acceptability factor for giving admission into an institution having a brand across the world?



PRAVEEN TRIPATHI
IIT Kanpur alumna from Mumbai: My basic premise is simple: Why meddle with things and institutions that are running smoothly and efficiently. I fail to comprehend as to why Sibal does not focus on issues where fixing is required. Take for example the issue of private engineering colleges... not many know that share of private engineering colleges goes beyond the total 75 per cent of engineering graduates. Like the different secondary boards, even JEE and AIEEE were created because of different measuring yardsticks.



MOHAN ARORA
IIT Kanpur alumna from Kolkata: I think Sibal is taking the right step. I fail to comprehend why such a hullabaloo is being made over the proposed merger. At the end of the day, I feel it does not make much difference because logically, it is a competition wherein the top ranking students would get admission into the preferred institutions such as IIT, which has a brand value. The reason why objection is being raised is because IIT boards are apprehensive about losing their autonomy. But overall, if the scenario is analysed, then this is the right step going away with different state boards.

Teachers' federation backs IITs against centralised test

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE

ALLAHABAD, JUNE 15

THE Federation of Central Universities Teachers' Associations (FEDCUTA) has lent support to the Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs) for their stand against the Ministry of Human Resource Development's (MHRD) proposed centralised entrance examination system for higher and technical institutions. The teachers' associations of 40 central universities in the country are affiliated to FEDCUTA.

The IITs have opposed the changes proposed by MHRD on the ground that it would dilute their excellence. The MHRD has been maintaining that a centralised admission system would spare the students the stress of sitting in multiple entrance examinations, besides reducing the dominance of coaching centres.

Addressing a press conference here on Friday, FEDCUTA president Prof G C Tripathi said, "IITs should be left to decide their own system of admission. Otherwise, their quality will deteriorate."

Prof Tripathi added that none of the stated objectives as proposed by the MHRD

The IITs have opposed the changes proposed by MHRD on the ground that it would dilute their excellence

are going to be met through the changes it wants. "How can including the weightage of Class 12 examination in the entrance test help improve quality of education at secondary level? It can only improve by investing in quality infrastructure and teachers in the schools," he said.

Prof Tripathi said that the MHRD's proposed measures smacked of a conspiracy to lower the primacy of IITs and pave way for entry of private players, including foreign institutions. "The primary and secondary education sectors have already been usurped by the private players. The government now wants to do the same at the higher education level," said Prof Tripathi. He added that the central universities were already feeling the tremendous squeeze on their autonomy at the hands of the *babus* in the ministry and the University Grants Commission.

Why IIT-JEE should not be scrapped

Sahil Jain

The major concerns about the entrance examinations for admissions to engineering colleges are multiplicity of tests (leading to stress?), a flourishing coaching industry which is not affordable for the poor, and the complete ignorance of school by students. But unfortunately, the new format, introduced by the Ministry of Human Resource Development, is aimed at solving none of them.

First of all, I would like to ask our Minister which survey or report suggests that a multiplicity of examinations causes more stress.

Till now, for seeking ad-

mission to a Centrally-funded government institution, a student has two opportunities — IIT-JEE and AIEEE.

One of my friends failed her IIT-JEE examination (in 2009), could not make it to an IIT, but got a three-digit rank in AIEEE (among 12 lakh students) and a two-digit rank in DCE (for the Delhi College of Engineering). Did multiplicity reduce or increase her stress? Had there been just one examination, her career would have been doomed.

The new format will combine the IIT-JEE and the AIEEE, and hence admissions to all Central government-funded institutions (the IITs, the NITs, the IIITs) will take place through this

new examination, which means a student has got just one opportunity to perform, leading to more stress.

But what about private colleges? The new format says the entrance examinations for private colleges like BITS, VIT, Manipal, Symbiosis, etc., would continue.

The private colleges charge not less than Rs 1,000 for their entrance test, a huge source of income for them. But the new format has done nothing about it. It is clear that the government is selling the country a myth of "one nation one test."

Rather than running after coaching institutes to shut them down, the government should have done some retro-

spection. Coaching is nothing but a form of tuition. A tutor is required only when our existing systems fail to deliver.

Nowadays, students, as early as in Standard IV, go for tuition, because our schooling has perhaps failed miserably. Lack of teachers and basic facilities like toilets and water, to name a few. Will our honourable Minister ban all these tuitions too?

When you have to select 5,000 out of 12 lakh students, the standard of the examination will definitely be tough. Had the school education been efficient and sufficient, there would not have been any need for coaching at all. With the issue of coaching the government is worried for

the 95 per cent who do not make it to the IITs.

But what will the new format do?

With the new format in place, a parallel coaching industry would flourish, promising excellent results in board examinations as well. In fact, a few coaching centres have already started 2-in-1 study packages.

A sincere effort could have been made, starting with a screening test in Standard XI itself, to be conducted by the IITs, which would filter the students and keep a check on the coaching industry, which makes false promises to students as well as parents, and keeps minting money for two consecutive years.

In Standard XII Boards, for physics and chemistry, 30 out of 100 marks are awarded for practicals (laboratory performance), the sole criterion of which is "impression on teachers." If you were the favourite student, you got 30/30, and the range of marks would be 25-30.

What is the point of increasing the "importance of boards" when a significant number of board examinations are based on an indifferent syllabus, and a teaching style that discourages analytical skills and creative thinking and actually promotes rote learning?

In the IIT-JEE merit list, one mark is equivalent to 100 ranks — i.e., with a difference of one mark, a difference of 100 ranks occurs. Such is the high competence level of the IIT-JEE. Now imagine a stu-

dent securing a better rank, by 500 points, just because the school teacher gave him 30/30 in the practicals. What a joke! Imagine the quality of students who would be entering the IITs.

What logic suggests that we inject something that is plagued by different kinds of unfair practices (board exams) — paper leaks, mass copying, corruption, schedule glitches and revaluations — into an entrance system that is currently working without these influences?

With 42 board examinations in the country, I fail to understand how the normalisation process is going to be done. In one board, 70% could be 95 percentile, while at the other, 85% could be 90 percentile.

With 42 board examinations in the country, I fail to understand how the normalisation process will be done. In one board, 70% could be 95 percentile, while in another, 85% could be 90 percentile.

Hence, the IIT-JEE should not be scrapped at all, and instead of imposing his own "creative ideas," our Minister should initiate wider consultations with all stakeholders of the IITs — professors, students and the alumni — to find solutions.

(sahil.2441@gmail.com)

Dr. Sibal, your remedy worse than the disease

T. Rajagopalan

The efficient functioning of the Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs) over the last five decades has made the nation proud. The secret of success is non-interference by government agencies in the admission and selection of students for the undergraduate B.Tech. course. Indeed, the Joint Entrance Examination (JEE) to the IITs can be said to be one of the very best selection tests in the world. This was refined over a period of time, and it evolved into a good assessment of an aspiring candidate's mental and analytical reasoning. By its very nature, the JEE cannot be equated or compared with the several board examinations held in different States after Class 12.

It is no exaggeration to say that the cream of the youth got into the IITs because of the rigour of testing and unbiased procedures. Nobody, including the progeny of the highest dignitary in the land, could enter the portals of the IITs solely banking on influence. Naturally, the products of the institutions became the hot favourites for employers all over the world.

Tinkering with and re-vamping of the examination system for entrance to these prestigious institutions need to be avoided when it has been found to be sound. True, the contents of the board syllabi must also be learnt well by students. But the JEE even as it exists today cannot be cleared by the candidates without the subject knowledge gained from the different Central and Board syllabi for the Standard XI and XII. The JEE goes beyond these since many application-oriented questions (essential for a regimen of engineering education) figure in the question papers.

It is worth recalling that a committee appointed a few years ago to review the functioning of the IITs suggested the jettisoning of the B. Tech degree course and offering only the M. Tech and doctoral programmes. This was considered preposterous by the academic world and cut no ice with the people in the know of things. The reason: It is the undergraduate course which is the bulwark of the IIT system providing a pool of excellence at an early stage.

Luckily, the suggestion was not implemented making the availability of a reservoir of good technical manpower at the higher levels. No doubt, there is need for continuous refinement of the JEE and this is already happening without sacrificing the validity of assessment.

The Senate of each IIT has a great role to play because of the stakes involved. Now reports indicate a divided opinion among the Senates of different IITs on the latest proposal to modify the JEE. The Human Resource Development Ministry under Kapil Sibal has stirred up a hornets' nest and now the Minister says he respects the autonomy of the IITs and that he is ready for discussions though he is certain about "One India, one test." What the Minister must remember is the adage that the remedy must not be worse than the disease.

(The writer is a former Education Correspondent of The Hindu. trajagopalan@yahoo.com)



TALKTIME
DEBRAJ MOOKERJEE

Sibal & human resource underdevelopment

While the UPA Government is being continually upbraided by the media and economists for stalling India's growth story, what is less recognised is its fervent push for 'reforms' in the higher education space. Much of what it is trying to achieve is in line with the global capitalist perspective on higher education — to modularise and segmentise knowledge as consumable components, to put a price tag on knowledge acquisition (promoting in the process the interests of financiers though a student loan based funding regime), and to monetise state facilities on the one hand (through private-public collaboration) and promote private enterprise in the sector on the other.

Where it ought to be ushering reforms (as in the manner of governance delivery and bureaucracy) the Government claims impotence, and where it ought to allow the State to function optimally (given the clear mandate it has from India's post Independence experience of the meaningful contribution of higher education to India's considerable global status), it is most eager to deploy its hand of destruction. The critical inflexion point for India today is not the economy that we all talk so much about, but the story of its higher education apparatus, which under the dextrous hands of Kapil Sibal and his backers at home and overseas, is in the process of being dismantled. This bullying to get the semester system through in Delhi University, or the current row over steam-rolling the IITs into accepting diluted but standardised protocols for admissions, is all a part of the larger story unfolding below the radar of our otherwise watchful media.

The Government's primary objective vis-a-vis higher education has been to cut costs. To do so it is attempting to deploy various strategies. First, it is pushing for autonomy among educational institutions so that the better ones can become self-financing. Next, it is emphasising the push towards commercialisation of education so that courses are structured according to their market value, thus ensuring higher revenue per unit taught. Once students are required to pay fat sums for higher education (for which student loans would become mandatory), they in any case would do a return on investment analysis before choosing a course module. Third, the Government is trying to reposition higher education as a learning programme, as opposed to a teaching programme.

The last point raises important issues. If teachers are required to produce learning modules for easy consumption by students whose sole purpose it is to fit into one or the other role defined by the narrow exigencies of market forces, could we still call the arrangement education, let alone higher education. This is the classic role of a trainer. This is what a football coach does. He has theories, he trains, he strategises, rarely he even introduces something new, but he is not an educator. All this talk of the knowledge economy has obfuscated what knowledge always was and is meant to be — the endeavour to push human enquiry in areas unchartered by the past. The knowledge economy with its emphasis on the specific, the modular and the marketable is necessary for an efficient global business culture, but it should not be confused with higher education. Teachers are meant to teach. They urge students through their erudition, guidance and the sheer energy of classroom bonhomie to ask meaningful questions of and through their chosen disciplines and thus make significant contributions to the world they inhabit. The university classroom is a space where a student learns what the teacher has to teach.

What Sibal *saheb* & Co (Knowledge Commission, FICCI and so on) now want is for the teacher to provide no more than what in their (Sibal & Co's, that is) opinion the student needs — to serve a limited function as a 'resource' in the market economy. For these crusading evangelists the dream is to institute a system based on teaching modules, enhanced use of ICT (fancy term for information technology aided modalities), taped lectures via videoconference (Delhi University has a monumentally mediocre outfit called ILLI which is falteringly attempting to do just that), depersonalised teacher-student relationship, and most importantly, artificially set time lines and frames for knowledge production. The economy can rebound, given India's enormous energy and capacity for survival through chaos, but higher education once destroyed will break the very backbone of the nation.

आईआईटी परीक्षा पैटर्न से छेड़छाड़ खतरनाक



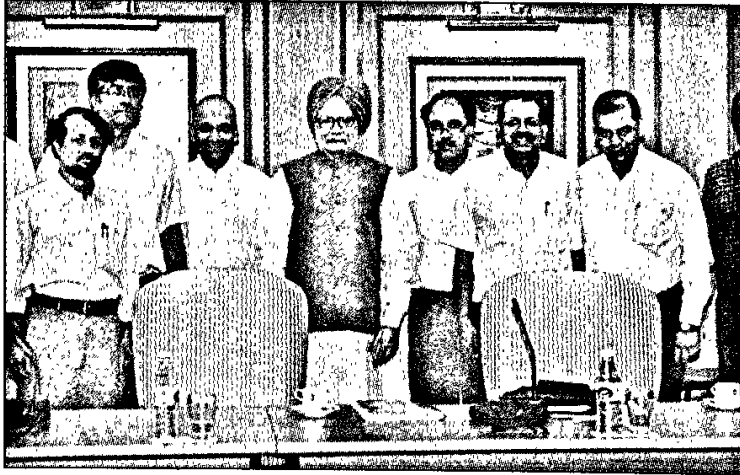
आनंद कुमार
संस्थापक सुपर 30

हमारे देश में अमीरी और गरीबी की खाई शिक्षा को भी प्रभावित करती रही है। ऐसे में सत्ता को कोई भी फैसला करने से पहले यह सोचना चाहिए कि यह कदम देश के गरीब परिवार से आने

वाले छात्रों को इससे कितना फायदा होगा। अगर सरकार का कोई फैसला ग्रामीण पृष्ठभूमि के गरीब छात्रों को दौड़ में पिछड़ने को विवश करता है तो वह फैसला उचित नहीं कहा जा सकता। महात्मा गांधी ने कोई योजना बनाने से पहले समाज के सबसे अंतिम व्यक्ति का ध्यान रखने की बात कही थी। शिक्षा के क्षेत्र में भी गांधी की यह सीख लागू होती है।

आईआईटी और जेईई के लिए एक नई परीक्षा प्रणाली की बात कही गई तो बवाल लायमी था। नौबत यहां तक आ गई कि आईआईटी एल्युमिनी को प्रधानमंत्री डॉ. मनमोहन सिंह से हस्तक्षेप की मांग करनी पड़ी। आम लोगों को ऐसा लगता होगा कि आईआईटी कानपुर दिल्ली या खड़गपुर ने मानव संसाधन विकासमंत्री कपिल सिब्बल की घोषणा का विरोध कोई अचानक कर दिया। असल में पिछले दो साल से भी ज्यादा का वक्त बीत गया, जब आईआईटी कानपुर की शीर्ष फैकल्टी ने नए पैटर्न का खुला विरोध करके सरकार को तैवर दिखा दिए थे। केंद्र सरकार ने भले ही सिंगल परीक्षा का फैसला आईआईटी खड़गपुर के प्रोफेसर दामोदर आचार्य कमेटी की सिफारिशों पर किया। उसी कमेटी ने इस बात की अनुशंसा की थी कि आईआईटी के लिए चयन प्रक्रिया में 12 वीं कक्षा के अंक भी जोड़ने की सिफारिश होनी चाहिए। सरकार ने इस कमेटी की सिफारिश की आड़ लेकर यह भ्रम आम जनता में फैलाने की कोशिश की कि इस तरह का क्रांतिकारी सुधार लाने से स्कूली शिक्षा में अच्छे अंक लाने वालों को वरीयता मिलेगी और इससे स्कूली शिक्षा का स्तर भी बेहतर होता चला जाएगा। दरअसल सारा विवाद सरकार की इसी मांग के चलते हुआ है। सवाल उठता है कि किसी असाध्य बीमारी से ग्रसित कोई व्यक्ति सिर्फ डॉक्टर का पर्चा लिख देने मात्र से तो ठीक नहीं होने वाला जब तक बीमारी की गहरी पड़ताल न की जाए। उपचार तो उसके बाद ही न आरंभ होगा। यहां हो रहा है कि मर्ज का पता लगाए बिना ही आप इलाज शुरू कर रहे हैं।

हमारा आधा भारत गांवों में बसता है। आजादी से बाद से लेकर आज तक हमारे देश के योजनाकारों ने दो तरह की व्यवस्थाएं खड़ी कर दी



नई दिल्ली में पीएम डॉ. मनमोहन सिंह से मुलाकात करते आईआईटी फैकल्टी फेडरेशन के सदस्य।

है। एक तरफ गांव है। अशिक्षा है, भुखमरी है, बेकारी है और दूसरी ओर संपन्न शहर है। शिक्षा की चकाचौंध है। उच्च शिक्षा व रोजगार के अवसर हैं। जबकि गांवों में टूटे और सुविधाविहीन स्कूल हैं। आपने आईआईटी में प्रवेश परीक्षा में सुधार के नाम पर 12 वीं के अंकों को शामिल करने की बात तो कर दी लेकिन क्या गांवों में भी शिक्षा का वही स्तर उपलब्ध करा दिया है जो आप जयपुर, दिल्ली या मुंबई के किसी पाँश इलाके के पब्लिक स्कूल या

■ सरकार को कोई भी फैसला लेने से पहले सोचना चाहिए कि इससे गरीब परिवार से आने वाले बच्चे को कितना फायदा होगा

केंद्रीय विद्यालय के लिए सुलभ करा रहे है? यानी शहरी संपन्न बच्चों को उनके माता-पिता की हैसियत के हिसाब से आप शिक्षा तो सुनिश्चित कर रहे हैं ताकि अच्छी स्कूली शिक्षा पाकर आईआईटी-जेईई उनके लिए आसान बन सके। लेकिन गांवों में गरीबी की वजह से अच्छी शिक्षा से वंचित आंबादी के बारे में क्या सोचा गया है।

मैंने सुपर 30, की अपनी एक दशक की चुनौतियों से भरी यात्रा में इस अनुभव को गहराई से लिया है कि निर्धन गरीब मजदूरों के बच्चों को अगर अवसर दिए जाएं तो उनमें से कइयों में गहरी प्रतिभा है। उनमें से कई स्कूली शिक्षा में अच्छे नंबर नहीं ला सके क्योंकि जहां से वे आते हैं, वहां सरकारी स्कूलों की हालत दयनीय है। न तो वहां अच्छे शिक्षक हैं और न ही अन्य सुविधाएं। सुविधाविहीन स्कूल में

पढ़े बालक को आप दोषी मानेंगे क्योंकि आप आईआईटी में आने के काबिल नहीं हैं, या इसलिए कि 12 वीं की परीक्षा में आप अच्छे नंबर नहीं ला सके। सवाल यह है कि आपने आईआईटी की परीक्षा में बैठने वाले देश के हरेक बच्चे को एक समान शिक्षा पाने का मौका क्यों नहीं दिया गया? यह सवाल आज जुबान पर है देश के लाखों अभिभावकों और बच्चों के, जो मानते हैं कि आईआईटी की सिंगल परीक्षा का फरमान गरीबों और गांवों में रहने वाले लोगों का मजाक उड़ाना है। समान अवसर पाने के उनके अधिकार पर कुठाराघात है। मेरा मानना है कि ऐसा कोई भी फैसला जिससे देश के गरीबों व वंचितों के अधिकारों पर हमला होता है, वह देश को खोखला बनाएगा। मैंने बिहार में पाया कि ऐसे निर्धन माता-पिता जिनके घर में दो जून की रोटी का जुगाड़ नहीं है, भुखमरी, बेबसी में भी उनके घरों के नौनिहालों का सुपर 30 तक पहुंचने का सपना साकार हुआ। मैं तो मात्र एक माध्यम बना। नक्सल प्रभावित क्षेत्र गया के पास एक गांव का बालक अनूप ही या पटना में ऑटो चलाकर किसी तरह अपने परिवार का भरण-पोषण करने वाले बालक के गरीब पिता हों, विपन्नता में गुजर-बसर व आगे बढ़ने वालों की प्रबल इच्छा रखने वालों की एक जैसी कहानी मुझे दिखलाई पड़ी है। कानपुर, खड़गपुर व दिल्ली आईआईटी की फैकल्टी ने भी मेरे इस विचार से पूरी तरह सहमति प्रकट कर दी है कि देश में आईआईटी की सिंगल परीक्षा का फैसला केवल गरीब छात्रों को मौकों से वंचित करेगा बल्कि पूरी दुनिया में भारत का नाम रौशन करने वाली आईआईटी में एकेडमिक

स्तर को नीचे गिराएगा। हालांकि आईआईटी परीक्षा पैटर्न के कई मुद्दों को लेकर मैं असहमत हूं। सबसे पहले तो इस बात कि आईआईटी की प्रवेश परीक्षा में छात्रों को ऐसे सवाल पूछे जाते हैं, जिनका स्तर 12वीं कक्षा के पाठ्यक्रम से पूरी तरह बाहर का होता है। शहरों में तो कोचिंग और दूसरी सुविधाएं परीक्षा की तैयारियों में जुटे छात्रों को कुछ मदद मिल जाती है लेकिन गांवों के सरकारी स्कूलों के बच्चों के लिए ऐसे सवालों को देखते ही आफत टूट जाती है। मुझे केंद्रीय मानव संसाधन मंत्री के इस फैसले से हैरत होती है कि सिंगल परीक्षा पैटर्न लागू करने से आईआईटी का सपना संजोने वाले बच्चों और उनके अभिभावकों की कोचिंग केंद्रों पर निर्भरता खत्म हो जाएगी।

ऐसा लगता है कि मंत्री महोदय और उनकी पैरोकारी करने वाले लोगों ने अपने मुल्क में दोहरी शिक्षा और शिक्षा व्यवस्था को खुले बाजार के हवाले करने की पूरी कोशिशों से ही आंखें मूंद रखी हैं। बेसिक या स्कूली शिक्षा का स्तर सुधारें बिना इंटर परीक्षा के अंकों को आप आईआईटी में प्रवेश परीक्षा का मानदंड बनाएंगे तो इससे होगा यह कि देश में जिन शिक्षा बोर्डों में परीक्षा परीणाम 100 प्रतिशत तक है, उन राज्यों के बच्चे तो बाजी मार लेंगे लेकिन बाकी प्रदेशों के बच्चों को आप किस जूम की सजा देंगे, जहां स्कूली शिक्षा की रिजल्ट अधिकतम 70 से 80 प्रतिशत तक ही रहता है। 36 शिक्षा बोर्डों वाले भारत में शहरी कॉन्वेंट स्कूलों के साथ ही केंद्रीय शिक्षा बोर्ड है। उनमें शिक्षा का स्तर गांवों की शिक्षा के मुकाबले हर तरह से बेहतर पाया जाता है। कई प्रदेशों में तो 60 प्रतिशत ही औसतन अंक आते हैं। पंजाब सरकार ने इस मामले में केंद्र सरकार को कड़ा पर लिख दिया है। और भी राज्य केंद्र के सामने उठाने वाले हैं क्योंकि इससे उन प्रदेशों को अपने सूबे के छात्रों का आईआईटी में औसत पिछड़ने का डर सता रहा है। बिना सोचे समझे एक देश एक परीक्षा का पैटर्न लागू करके तो आप शेर और बकरी को एक घाट पर ले जाकर पानी पिलाने की ऐसी चेष्टा कर रहे हैं जो आत्मघाती साबित हो सकती है। हर साल लाखों बच्चे और उनके अभिभावक आईआईटी की तैयारियां काफी पहले से करना आरंभ कर देते हैं। सरकार ने ऐतान कर दिया है कि अगले साल यानी 2013 से वह नया परीक्षा पैटर्न लागू करेगी। 12 वीं के अंकों को आप आईआईटी में शामिल करेंगे तो इससे सबसे ज्यादा अहित समाज के उस तबके का होगा जहां आज तक सरकारी शिक्षा का अंधकार कायम है। आईआईटी की सिंगल परीक्षा के फरमान के खिलाफ पूरे उच्च शिक्षा जगत में जो देशव्यापी उबाल आया है, उसका निदान अब प्रधानमंत्री मनमोहन सिंह के हाथ में आ गया है।

गरिमा के सवाल पर खिंचीं तलवारें

कोलकाता से दीपक रस्तोगी

जब यह सोचा जा रहा था कि आईआईटी (खड़गपुर) से केंद्रीय मानव संसाधन विकास के प्रस्ताव पर समर्थन मिल जाएगा, तभी भानुमति का पिटारा खुल गया। संस्थान के स्तर की गरिमा का सवाल यहां भी उठ खड़ा हुआ। गरिमा के सवाल पर यहां की सीनेट और निदेशक के बीच मतभिन्नता नजर आने लगी। फिलहाल प्रधानमंत्री के दखल से विवाद टलता जरूर दिख रहा है, लेकिन पूरी तरह खत्म नहीं हुआ है। एकीकृत भर्ती परीक्षा का सवाल जब भी उठेगा, यहां का वितंडा किसी न किसी रूप में सामने जरूर आएगा। देश के सभी आईआईटी के शिक्षक प्रतिनिधियों ने प्रधानमंत्री से इस मुद्दे पर भेंट की और फिलहाल यही भरोसा मिला है कि आईआईटी संस्थानों में भर्ती की प्रक्रिया में फिलहाल बदलाव नहीं किया जाएगा। तकनीकी शिक्षा देने वाले संस्थानों में दाखिले के लिए देशभर में एकीकृत परीक्षा पद्धति फिलहाल चालू नहीं किया जाएगा।

प्रस्तावित प्रक्रिया का विरोध करने वाले आईआईटी के शिक्षकों की निगाह में इस पद्धति से धीरे-धीरे आईआईटी की ब्रांड वैल्यू खत्म हो जाएगी। प्रस्ताव के अनुसार, एकीकृत परीक्षा दो-स्तरीय होगी। पहली परीक्षा में सभी को भाग लेना होगा। दूसरी एडवांस परीक्षा होगी, जिसे आईआईटी के मानकों को ध्यान में रखकर लिया जाएगा। 12 के अंकों को भी मेरिट तैयार करने में ध्यान रखा जाएगा। शुरू में इस पद्धति का समर्थन करने वाले आईआईटी के निदेशक दामोदर आचार्य पर अपने ही संस्थान की सीनेट की तरफ से तगड़ा दबाव पड़ा। विरोध करने वाले सीनेट के सदस्यों ने आईआईटी, कानपुर के

शिक्षकों की तरह की लाइन ली है। आईआईटी खड़गपुर के शिक्षकों की ओर से बतौर प्रतिनिधि फैकल्टी सदस्य प्रशांत गुहा को नामित किया गया है, जो ऑल इंडिया आईआईटी फैकल्टी फेडरेशन के साथ समन्वयन बनाए हुए है।

प्रशांत गुहा के अनुसार, नई पद्धति में शुरुआती परीक्षा में जो मेरिट लिस्ट बनेगी, उनमें से सभी को एडवांस परीक्षा में बिठाया जाएगा। लेकिन मेरिट वाले 50 हजार



दामोदर आचार्य
आईआईटी के निदेशक



विरोध प्रदर्शन करते आईआईटी के विद्यार्थी।

सभी फाइल फोटो

गरिमा के सवाल पर सीनेट और निदेशक के बीच मतभिन्नता नजर आने लगी

छात्रों की कॉपियां ही आईआईटी में दाखिले के लिए जांची जाएंगी। ऐसे में जनरल लिस्ट वाले सभी को एडवांस परीक्षा में क्यों बिठाया जा रहा है। आईआईटी, खड़गपुर में प्रस्तावित पद्धति के विरोध में माहौल पूरी तरह गरमा चुका है। दो जून को सीनेट में प्रस्तावित पद्धति के समर्थन का प्रस्ताव पारित किया गया था। एक फैकल्टी सदस्य ने नाम न छापने की गुजारिश के साथ कहा कि सभी उम्मीदवारों को एडवांस टेस्ट में बैठने की इजाजत क्यों होनी चाहिए? इस पद्धति में यह

भी ध्यान नहीं रखा गया कि देशभर के अलग-अलग परीक्षा बोर्ड में सिलेबस, परीक्षा लेने, अंक देने की प्रक्रियाएं अलग-अलग हैं। राज्यों के छात्रों का क्या होगा? जिन राज्यों में कम नंबर उठते हैं, वहां से मेधा वाले छात्र हो सकता है, नई पद्धति के तहत तैयार लिस्ट में न आए। आईआईटी खड़गपुर परिसर में शिक्षक अपनी नाराजगी लगातार जता रहे हैं। निदेशक से उनकी शिकायत है कि उन्होंने आईआईटी काउंसिल की बैठक में हमारी बातें पहुंचाने का वादा किया था। लेकिन वहां जाकर सरकार के प्रस्ताव पर सहमति जता दी। आईआईटी टीचर्स एसोसिएशन ने निदेशक को अपनी शिकायतों के बारे में लंबा एक ई-मेल भेजा है। दूसरी ओर, निदेशक दामोदर आचार्य अपनी बात को सही ठहराते हुए कहते हैं कि नई पद्धति से वैसे छात्रों को भी आईआईटी में दाखिले का मौका मिलेगा, जो गरीब हैं और सुदूर ग्रामीण इलाकों में पढ़ते हैं। वैसे छात्र सिर्फ राज्य स्तरीय परीक्षाओं तक ही सीमित रह जाते हैं। इस पद्धति में कोचिंग का महत्व घटेगा। उनके अनुसार, नया फॉर्मूला तैयार करने के पहले विशेषज्ञों, स्कूल बोर्डों के अध्यक्षों और तकनीकी संस्थानों के प्रमुखों को आठ बैठकें हुई थीं। इन सबकी टीम को नई पद्धति बेहतर लगती है। अब जबकि, प्रधानमंत्री की दखल पर नई पद्धति लागू करना टाल दिया गया है। इसे पूरी तरह रद्द कराने की कोशिश जारी है। आईआईटी खड़गपुर के शिक्षकों की फेडरेशन के महासचिव अनु मित्तल के अनुसार, बंगाल की मुख्यमंत्री ममता बनर्जी से दखल देने की अपील की जा रही है। जल्द ही फेडरेशन उन्हें पत्र भेजेगा। अप्रैल में मुख्यमंत्री से संपर्क करने की कोशिश हुई थी, लेकिन वे नहीं मिलीं। अब नए सिर से उनके जरिए प्रधानमंत्री तक अपील पहुंचाने की कोशिश की जाएगी।

छात्रों की भी तो सुनें..

मुंबई से पंकज शुक्ल

इंजीनियर बनने का सपना पालने वाले छात्रों का हौसला और हुनर नापने के लिए पूरे साल में बस एक इम्तिहान लेने के सरकारी फैसले के खिलाफ बगावत हो चुकी है। सरकार के इस फैसले के बारे में आईआईटी, मुंबई के पूर्व छात्र व अमेरिका में आईबीएम और पीडब्ल्यूसी जैसी नामचीन कंपनियों में सलाहकार रहे रवींद्र शुक्ला कहते हैं कि सरकार के प्रस्ताव के खिलाफ आईआईटी कानपुर खुलकर सामने आ चुकी है। दिल्ली और मुंबई आईआईटी भी इसी लीक पर चलते दिख रहे हैं। सवाल सबसे पहले यह उठता है कि आखिर एक देश-एक परीक्षा के सरकारी प्रस्ताव को लेकर इतना तीखा विरोध है क्यों? सरकार चाहती है कि देश के सभी इंजीनियरिंग संस्थानों में प्रवेश एक ही प्रवेश परीक्षा के जरिए हो, इसके अलावा सरकार की मंशा परीक्षा परिणाम में 40 फीसदी वेटेज कक्षा 12 में छात्रों द्वारा हासिल अंकों को देने की भी है।

■ सरकार के प्रस्ताव के खिलाफ आईआईटी कानपुर खुलकर सामने आ चुका है

इन दोनों बातों को सिलसिलेवार ढंग से समझाते हुए रवींद्र कहते हैं, जिस दिन इंजीनियरिंग की परीक्षा होनी थी मैं बीमार पड़ गया था और बिना मेरी किसी भी गलती के मेरी पूरे साल की मेहनत पर पानी फिरता नजर आया। लेकिन, ये वो वक़्त था जब मेरे पास आईआईटी, रुड़की और एमएनआर के लिए अलग-अलग से परीक्षाएं देने का विकल्प मौजूद था। हालांकि ये भी बात सही है कि कोई भी छात्र हर सप्ताहोंत बस परीक्षाएं ही नहीं देता रहना चाहता फिर भी हर छात्र को साल में दो तीन विकल्प अगर मिलते हैं, तो इसमें बुराई भी नहीं है। एक खास बात और मैं पूछना चाहता और वो ये कि क्या मानव संसाधन विकास मंत्रालय ने इस बारे में छात्रों के बीच कोई सर्वेक्षण आदि कराया? मुझे नहीं लगता कि सरकार ने छात्रों से इस बारे में कोई भी राय ली है। अगर सरकार ये सब छात्रों के ऊपर से दबाव कम करने के नाम पर कर रही है, तो मेरी राय यह है कि अलग-अलग परीक्षाओं का दबाव हलने के बजाय करो या मरो टाइप के इस इकलौते परीक्षा का दबाव ज्यादा नुकसानदेह होगा। लेकिन, फिर इस बदलाव की जरूरत क्यों आन पड़ी? रवींद्र इसका भी विस्तार से जवाब देते हैं। वह कहते हैं, शायद आईआईटी की प्रवेश परीक्षा की गुणवत्ता को लेकर कुछ भ्रम है। हालांकि, अभी तक सरकार स्पष्ट तरीके से ये नहीं बता सकी है कि आखिर इस फेरबदल की जरूरत क्यों है? मुझे लगता है कि इसके पीछे कोचिंग की बढ़ती तादाद भी असर कर रही है। ग्रामीण इलाकों के बच्चे शायद शहरों के छात्रों के मुकाबले बेहतर तैयारी नहीं कर पाते हैं। पर, इसके लिए इम्तिहान का स्तर नीचे लाने की क्या जरूरत है? क्या हम गांव के बच्चों को बेहतर तैयारी का सुविधा मुहैया करा सकने की सूरत में नहीं हैं? सरकार को गांवों में इंजीनियरिंग प्रवेश परीक्षाओं के लिए खास कोचिंग चलानी चाहिए। और, आखिरी लेकिन अहम मुद्दा है 12वीं कक्षा के नंबरों का। देश के हर बोर्ड में अंक मिलने की परंपरा अलग-अलग है। सीबीएसई बोर्ड में 80 फीसदी नंबर लाना और यूपी बोर्ड में 60 फीसदी नंबर लाना करीब-करीब बराबर मेहनत मांगता है। लेकिन, कुछ दूसरे बोर्ड भी हैं, जिनमें 11वीं व 12 वीं दोनों के नंबर जुड़ते हैं। तो पहले तो सरकार को स्कूली शिक्षा में एकरूपता के लिए काम करना चाहिए और फिर एक एक पायदान करके ऊपर की तरफ बढ़ना चाहिए। अब भी देश में प्राथमिक, जूनियर और माध्यमिक स्तर पर शिक्षा का स्तर एक जैसा नहीं है। तो अगर पौधे की परवरिश ही एक जैसी न हो तो बड़े होने पर सिर्फ कटाई छटाई करके सबको एक जैसी लाइन में लाने की कोशिश करना मेरे हिसाब से तो कतई ठीक नहीं है।

इन्हें सता रहा है प्रवेश परीक्षा में नए प्रयोग का खौफ

पटना से राधवेन्द्र नारायण मिश्र

बिहार से औसतन पांच से आठ हजार छात्र हर साल इंजीनियरिंग की परीक्षा में सफलता प्राप्त करते हैं। संघ लोक सेवा आयोग की सिविल परीक्षा से लेकर तमाम प्रतियोगिता परीक्षाओं में बिहारी छात्रों ने बड़ी संख्या में हर साल सफलता का परचम लहराया है। इसमें सबसे बड़ी बात यह रही है कि सफल अधिकांश छात्र ऐसे होते हैं जो गरीब घरों से आते हैं। गांवों के स्कूलों से निकलकर कस्बों के कॉलेजों में सीमित संसाधनों से पढ़ाई पूरी करने वाले ये छात्र सिर्फ अपनी मेहनत, लगन और प्रतिभा के आधार पर सुविधा संपन्न शहरी छात्रों को पछाड़ते रहे हैं। गुदड़ी के इन लालों को आईआईटी में प्रवेश की नई व्यवस्था को लेकर खौफ है। सुपर 30 के संस्थापक आनंद कुमार ने पहले ही इस व्यवस्था का विरोध किया है और अब रहमानी 30 के संस्थापक मौलाना मोहम्मद वली रहमानी भी इसका विरोध कर रहे हैं। आईआईटी परीक्षा में सफल रहे छात्र भी नई व्यवस्था को अनर्गल प्रलाप बताते हैं और परीक्षा की तैयारी कर रहे छात्र भविष्य को लेकर सशकित हैं।

रहमानी फाउंडेशन के मौलाना मोहम्मद वली रहमानी गरीब अल्पसंख्यक छात्रों को शिक्षा सुविधा उपलब्ध कराते रहे हैं। उन्होंने कहा कि आईआईटी में प्रवेश के लिए प्रस्तावित नई व्यवस्था ज्यादा जटिल है। इससे गरीब और ग्रामीण



प्रतिभाशाली आईआईटी छात्र एक फोटो शूट के दौरान।

छात्रों को नुकसान होगा। सुपर 30 के संचालक आनंद कुमार ने कहा है कि केंद्रीय मानव संसाधन मंत्री कपिल सिब्बल को अपने फैसले पर पुनर्विचार करना चाहिए क्योंकि नई व्यवस्था में सबसे अधिक मार ग्रामीण पृष्ठभूमि के छात्रों पर पड़ेगी और उनके लिए आईआईटी में प्रवेश मुश्किल हो जाएगा।

सुपर 30 के संचालक आनंद कुमार गरीब छात्रों को निःशुल्क शिक्षण, भोजन और आवास की सुविधा उपलब्ध कराकर आईआईटी की तैयारी कराते हैं। उनके संस्थान से अबतक 263 छात्रों को आईआईटी में दाखिला मिला है। आनंद ने आईआईटी और एनआईटी में प्रवेश के लिए संयुक्त परिषद के गठन का विरोध किया है। उन्होंने कहा कि गांवों के स्कूलों में आधारभूत संरचना और सुविधाओं का अभाव है। उनके संस्थान से इस बार आईआईटी की परीक्षा में सफल रहे छात्र आशीष रंजन का कहना है कि केंद्रीय मानव संसाधन विभाग एम्स के लिए सिंगल टेस्ट लेता है लेकिन नई व्यवस्था में इंजीनियर के लिए तीन स्तर पर परीक्षाओं में सफल होने की विवशता होगी। यह गलत है। आशीष कहते हैं कि वे ट्रक ड्राइवर के पुत्र हैं और आईआईटी में सफलता पाई है लेकिन नई व्यवस्था के बाद कोई दूसरे गरीब बाप का बच्चा ऐसा सपना भी नहीं देख पाएगा। किसान बेटे मधुबनी के अभिषेक ने भी इस बार आईआईटी प्रवेश परीक्षा में सफलता पाई है। वह कहते हैं कि नई व्यवस्था में प्लस टू के नंबर को भी जोड़े जाने की बात है। इसके अलावा जेईई एडवांस टेस्ट और जेईई मेन्स की परीक्षा होगी। इससे दिक्कतें पैदा होंगी। ग्रामीण पृष्ठभूमि के छात्र प्लस टू की परीक्षाओं में शहरी छात्रों से प्रतियोगिता में पिछड़ सकते हैं। हर राज्य के बोर्ड के अलग-अलग मापदंड हैं और सीबीएसई तथा आईसीएसई का अलग मापदंड। इस कारण प्राप्तांक के प्रतिशत गणना में भ्रम की स्थिति कायम हो सकती है।

Indian Express ND 17/06/2012 P-7

Hindustan Times ND
17/06/2012 P-9

Technical glitches delay IIT admissions

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE

NEW DELHI | JUNE 16

THE scrapping of the 4.5 per cent minority quota in the IITs has delayed the admission process with technical glitches hitting the JEE seat allocation software. As a result, the first round of seat allocation for JEE 2012, scheduled for June 14, stands postponed.

Designed to factor in seat allocations keeping in mind the 4.5 per cent minority sub-quota and 22 per cent OBC quota, the IIT software has run into technical glitches, now that the category has been removed. "While the seat allocation should have been announced at least two days back, it is held up because of a technical problem. Once the problem is rectified, the announcement will be made," said a senior official.

While nearly 5.6 lakh students appeared for the JEE-2012, 24,112 had been shortlisted. Of the total 9,647 seats across 15 IITs, ISM-Dhanbad and IT-BHU, 443 were earmarked for minorities and 325 people had been shortlisted — the bulk of them Muslims. With the sub-quota now scrapped, the 325 seats have now been reverted back to the OBC quota seats.

IIT ASPIRANTS ANXIOUS OVER DELAY IN COURSE ALLOTMENT

Vanita Srivastava

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NEW DELHI: For Nishanth R of Hyderabad, who got a 4th rank in the IIT-JEE this year, it was not frustrating since he knew he would get the course he wanted.

But for several thousands students the last three days were filled with anxiety.

The IITs were supposed to upload the course of the students on June 14 at 9 am. And since then the students have been logging on to find out their branch and which IIT has been allocated to them.

On June 14, the website said the students will be told about course allocation at 5 pm which was extended later to 11 pm. On June 15, the site had message — "allocation of course is delayed". On June 16, even the strip for delay in course allocation disappeared and the site could not be opened.

"I am not tense but most of my friends are checking the site every 10 minutes," Nishanth said. Another student said: "I have not been able to sleep for the last two days."

The IIT-JEE office was on Saturday thronged with anxious students and parents, who wanted to know the reason for the delay. Some had to pay fees in other institutes and were anxious to know the course allocated to take a final decision.

JEE SAYS COURSES WILL BE UPLOADED SOON AND DELAY WAS DUE TO A SOFTWARE SNAG

Organising chairman JEE Dr GB Reddy had on Friday said the delay was because of some software problem. On Saturday, JEE officials were hopeful that the courses would be uploaded in the night. According to sources, the JEE officials were making all efforts to rectify the problem.

Sources said the courses were being once again verified before being finally uploaded.

Earlier questions worth 14 marks were found to be having errors in the JEE 2012.

IITs had 757 seats vacant in '11-'12, HC told

UTKARSH ANAND
NEW DELHI | JUNE 16

AN affidavit filed by the IITs in the Delhi High Court has disclosed that as many as 757 of the total 9,618 seats remained vacant in 2011-12 across its 15 branches.

Asked by Justice Hima Kohli to explain their policy for filling up the vacant seats, the affidavit by IIT-JEE chairman G B Reddy said it was not possible to show a single document since the JEE system is a "continuously evolving process".

Filed last month in response to an IIT aspirant's petition, through counsel Prag Chawla, the affidavit said it was not possible to have more than two rounds of counselling because of strict adherence to time-bound academic schedule. However, after a ruling by the Andhra Pradesh HC in 2011-12, it was decided to

VACANCY TABLE

Institute	Total seats	Vacant seats
ISM-Dhanbad	1,034	289
IIT-Ropar	120	11
IIT-Mandi	120	10
IIT-G'nagar	120	10
IIT-Roorkee	1,155	93

have a third round of counselling for JEE-2012 to reduce the number of vacant seats.

The affidavit said 599 of the 757 seats had remained vacant due to blocking of seats by candidates who pay the fee for a particular course but either do not turn up for registration or leave it midway if they get a desired course in other competitive exams.

To tackle this problem, IITs have drafted a new exit policy. "Admitted candidates who in-

form of their intention to not join the institute before the third round of counselling would be given a refund of their admission fees and not be barred from appearing in the subsequent JEE. This has been devised to ensure reduction of last-minute 'dropouts,' stated the affidavit.

It also pointed to 80 vacant seats in disabled category in 2011-12. These seats could not be reverted to their parent category since there was "no clarity" on it, but a decision has now been taken to revert the seats to their original category.

The IIT-JEE said there was no cause for interference by the High Court since steps were being taken to tackle the difficulties in the JEE system.

Justice Kohli, however, noted that the affidavit had thrown up some more questions, relating to the steps being taken by the IITs to fill up

vacant seats on an annual basis and ensure that minimum seats remain vacant. The court has given the IIT-JEE chairman six weeks to place another affidavit showing the vacancy position of seats for the past five years. "The financial effect of keeping seats vacant in this duration shall also be placed on record," added the court, postponing the matter for next hearing in August.

Submitted before the controversy over the Union HRD Ministry's decision to have one common entrance test for all IITs and other Centrally-funded institutes gathered momentum, the affidavit had noted that "conducting JEE for entrance to courses at IITs across India is under the consideration...and as per indications received, the character, organisation and the management of the JEE system is being restructured".

First meta university project likely to miss July deadline

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI | JUNE 16

THE country's first meta university project, which allows students to choose from the study modules offered by different participating universities, is likely to miss its July deadline.

The participating universities of this project — Delhi University, Jamia Millia Islamia, Jawaharlal Nehru University and IIT-Delhi — are still in the process of chalking out the modalities.

JNU vice-chancellor S K Sopory said the modalities of the project are being worked out and details being discussed. It is unlikely that JNU will meet the July deadline, he said.

IIT-Delhi director R K Shevgaonkar also said July is "too soon" for the project to take shape. He said the research is likely to start in the three fields identified by the four participating universities early last year, but the

The participating universities of this project — DU, Jamia Millia Islamia, JNU and IIT-Delhi — are still in the process of chalking out the modalities

degree programme "will start only next year".

The three fields identified last year are: public health, climate change and education.

In May this year, Jamia announced that its academic council had approved a course in public health, which was likely to take off this July.

Jamia V-C Najeeb Jung had said: "Jamia has completed all its internal requirements/formalities for starting the (diploma in public

health) course. We have the approval of our EC and the AC. Therefore, once DU gets clearance from their AC, we will start the maths course with mass communication."

The UGC had also been asked for the necessary funds. "Once the funds come in, we can start the course immediately," Jung said.

Representatives from the four universities have been in consultation since last year to decide on details regarding course content, credit system and intake capacity. The meta university project will allow students to create a flexible curriculum, with more choices of courses.

Under the system, the collaborating universities will provide, and recognise, credits to the students for different courses and facilitate student mobility across disciplines.

DU vice-chancellor Dinesh Singh could not be reached for comments.

HT, Delhi

FALL FROM GRACE OF THE INSIDER

ENDGAME From humble beginnings to meteoric rise to sharp fall, Rajat Gupta's tale is one of greed taking its toll

Yashwant Raj
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As Rajat Gupta listened to the verdict, he showed no emotions. The face was a mask with finely cut angles as it had been for most of the trial.

When he had looked around, there was a look on the face that said: you might belong here, but I don't. In a federal courtroom fighting charges of insider trading.

The expression didn't change at all, when he was read the verdict, guilty on three counts of securities fraud, which he must have known, carry 20 years each, and conspiracy, five.

In the visitors' section behind him, his wife, Anita, whom he met and married as students of IIT Delhi, collapsed, leaning against the bench. His four daughters sobbed.

For four weeks, they had endured the discomfort of walking past a bank of cameras into the courthouse and leaving with only the hope of an acquittal at the end of it.

On Friday morning, the jury came back, after just day and half of deliberations to find Gupta guilty, compared to 12 days a jury took to convict Galleon owner Raj Rajaratnam last May.

The case against Gupta was clear, and much as some jurors wanted him to walk and go home to his family, as one of them has said, they couldn't overlook the evidence of his guilt.

Gupta is free on bail till October 18. His lawyer Gary Naftalis has said he plans to appeal for the verdict to be set aside, failing which he will appeal against it.

Else, a jail cell close to Bernie Madoff's?

That was a long way for a man who broke several glass ceilings as he rose in the world of business as the first non-American managing director of McKinsey, a leading management consultancy firm.

And he was business royalty in India, much sought after advisor and consultant. He went on to co-found the prestigious Indian School of Business with protegee Anil Kumar, a colleague from McKinsey, who was also later convicted insider trading.

Born in Kolkata — it was called Calcutta then, Gupta moved to Delhi with his family when he was young. His father was a journalist and his mother a Montessori teacher. He lost both in quick succession when he was 15 and was on his own with his siblings.

"Despite being orphaned and despite having to watch out for his younger siblings, he worked his way through adversity in India with honours and his academic achievement earned him a scholarship — a scholarship to study at Harvard Business School," lawyer Gary Naftalis said about his client in his opening remarks at the trial.

Gupta went to Modern School, Delhi and then to IIT Delhi, where he studied mechanical engineering. That's where he met his wife Anita Mattoo, who, two years his junior, was studying electrical engineering. They met during rehearsals for a play they were doing together at IIT, called "Ratan" — she played his grandmother. They married in 1973.

The same year, Gupta won a scholarship to Harvard Business. Reuben Aragon, a Mexican-American dorm-mate from Harvard, told *Business Today* many years ago: "There was a spark there. You knew he would definitely be going some place." And he was about to be proven right.

Gupta joined McKinsey in 1973, and soon rose to head its Scandinavian operations, then came back to the US to head the Chicago office. In time, he rose to be elected its first non-American managing director.

Gupta is credited with aggressively expanding the firm, nearly doubling the size then to 891 partners.

He also changed the pay structure at the company, giving more to partners, and, some said, watering the values at the firm. Enron, a firm closely linked to McKinsey, happened on his watch.

Gupta, meantime, was doing well from himself. Bloomberg cited friends and former McKinsey employees in 2011 to say he could be making between \$5 million and \$10 million. He paid \$6 million for a mansion in Connecticut, previously owned by the JC Penny family, and bought a vacation home in Florida and a luxury apartment in Manhattan.

Gupta stepped down as McKinsey chief in 2003 and launched a series of equity funds that didn't get too far. He eventually floated Voyager Multi Strategy fund with Galleon owner Rajaratnam in 2007, investing \$10 million of his own money, all of which, Gupta's defense team said, he lost.

Soon, according to authorities, he was passing on insider information to Rajaratnam, who had been under regulatory scrutiny since 2006.

Gupta's tips to him as board members of Goldman Sachs and P&G would eventually get him into trouble, and the conviction on Friday.



THE STAKEHOLDERS IN THE DECLINE OF RAJAT GUPTA



ANIL KUMAR
Former McKinsey & Co. director

Also formerly of McKinsey, Kumar, who was once called Gupta's protégé, testified on behalf of the prosecution to critically damage defense's claim that the former McKinsey chief had fallen out with Rajaratnam. Kumar testified before the jurors the three consulted frequently. Gupta had advised Rajaratnam to focus on South Asia. And at some stage the three had planned Galleon Global. Kumar has been a prosecution witness, who also helped nail Rajaratnam.



PREET BHARARA
Attorney, Southern District of New York

The Indian-born US attorney for Southern District of New York is the man who set up the wire-tap on Rajaratnam, ensnaring more insider trading criminals than ever before. Bharara is the man behind a wave of insider trading arrests and convictions that have swept Wall Street, home to the world's mightiest financiers and bankers. *TIME* magazine put him on cover recently saying he was going after those who caused the meltdown. "Mr. Gupta has now exchanged the lofty board room for the prospect of a lowly jail cell," he said in a statement Friday.



RAJ RAJARATNAM
Founder, Galleon Group

The billionaire flashy Sri Lankan-born owner of Galleon Group, was the big fish the authorities wanted, and the rest such as Rajat Gupta came up in the net. Rajaratnam had been under regulatory scrutiny since 2006, no one including Gupta knew. Phone calls to him were under observation and that's how Gupta's tips to him were nailed. Rajaratnam was convicted in May 2011 and sent to jail for 11 years in October. He is the chief reason for Gupta's troubles now, apart, of course, as some may argue, the man himself.

June 18

P&B Daily , ND 18/06/2012 P-9

IIT, IIM clients, cash payment to surgeons under I-T radar

P&B BUREAU/PTI

NEW DELHI, JUNE 17

Dept says transaction escaping tax net

CONSULTANCY services taken from the elite IIMs and IITs and cash payments made to surgeons of large multi-speciality hospitals have come under the tax scanner as a country-wide Income Tax department probe has found that these transactions are largely escaping the tax net.

An elaborate 'analysis probe' conducted by the I-T department's snoop apparatus has found that a number of services, which also includes large and small Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs) and state government enterprises, are a large catchment area to realise taxes under the Tax

Deducted at Source (TDS) category and should be essentially tapped now.

A communication to keep a track on these potential tax generating areas has recently been sounded by the department to its Chief Commissioners (CCs) and Director Generals (DGs) during a recently held conference of the department brass and the CBDT in the national capital.

According to the I-T data, while the Indian Institutes of Management (IIMs) and Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs) render consultancy services to a host of government and non-government sectors, the beneficiaries (clients) of these services do not deduct



the TDS on the payments made to these elite institutions.

The report stated the consultancy offered by these elite pan-India institutes as "commercial".

The I-T found that on an average an IIM undertakes about 40 fresh consultancy projects in an year on a host of subjects. While some are related to giving advice to clients on specific issues and problems, others include training modules for the staff of the client company,

while some are related to orient maximum output from a desired project of the client firm.

The IITs too undertake similar projects but their consultancy services are higher on the technical and statistical fronts, the I-T found analysis probe also reported that big hospitals are making "huge cash payments" to doctors, particularly surgeons, without deducting the requisite TDS and this is an area to be tapped by the I-T.

The department, which is poised to chase the projected direct tax collection target of Rs 5.7 lakh crore for the current fiscal, will now also scan the annual reports of state Govt and

PSUs brought out by the Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) to check if TDS and other taxes are being deducted and are dropped in the governments revenue kitty.

Another large area which will be under the taxman's for TDS payments are the "huge payments" made by Non-Governmental Organisations for conducting a host of programmes in the service sector. Other regular areas which will see an increased scrutiny of the tax department would be the TDS received from payments made in lieu of transfer of immovable properties and acquisition of land.

The I-T top brass, during the conference, also decided to closely monitor cases of quoting "wrong PANs" to avoid TDS.

Deccan Herald ND 18/06/2012 p-9

Consultancy services of IIT, IIMs evading tax

NEW DELHI, PTI: Consultancy services by the Indian Institutes of Management and Indian Institutes of Technology and cash payments made to surgeons of large multi-speciality hospitals have come under the scanner of Income Tax department after a country-wide probe established that these transactions were largely escaping the I-T net.

An elaborate 'analysis probe' conducted by the I-T department's investigative apparatus found that a number of services, including large and small Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs) and state government

enterprises, are a large catchment area for realising taxes under the Tax Deducted at Source category and should be essentially tapped now.

In a recent conference of chiefs of various departments and the CBDT held in the national capital, the participants were told about the need to keep track of these potential tax generating areas.

According to the I-T data, while the IIMs and IITs render consultancy services to a host of government and non-government sectors, the beneficiaries (clients) of these services

do not deduct the TDS on the payments made to these elite institutions.

The report termed the consultancy offered by the pan-India institutes "commercial".

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firm. The IITs, too, undertake similar projects but their consultancy services are higher on the technical and statistical fronts, the I-T found.

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Hindustan Times ND 18-Jun-12 P22

Business Bhaskar ND
18/06/2012 P-1

Tax officials question IIT, IIM staff on consulting fees

HT Correspondent **Mt**
■ letters@hindustantimes.com

NEW DELHI: Consultancy services taken from the elite Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) and the Indian Institute of Management (IIM) have come under the tax scanner as a country-wide Income Tax department probe has found that these transactions often escape the tax net.

Officials say high sums are being paid in cash to IIT and IIM faculty members as fees for their professional advice without tax being deducted at source (TDS).

"It has been seen that some of the IIT and IIM faculty members, in lieu of providing high-level of technical and management consultancy, charge high fees and often it is accepted in cash rather through cheques," an I-T official said.

"As a result, the income earned by the individual evades TDS," the official claimed.

According to the department source, the I-T department conducted an assessment study and found that IIT and IIM faculty members provide consultancy services to private companies,

government organisations and public sector undertakings.

However, these premier institutes have a different take on this issue.

"We've strict specified norms under which no faculty member can provide consultancy services in a personal capacity and payments are received in the name of the institute through cheques only," Samir Kumar Barua, director, IIM Ahmedabad, told HT.

Sharing a similar view, IIM, Indore director, N Ravichandran said: "Providing consultancy in personal capacity is violation of IIM norms and official records are kept for all the payments received. If an IIM graduate and not a faculty member is providing consultancy and accepting fee in cash, IIM is in no way responsible."

OFFICIALS SAY HIGH SUMS ARE BEING PAID IN CASH TO IIT & IIM FACULTY MEMBERS AS FEES FOR THEIR ADVICE WITHOUT TDS DEDUCTION

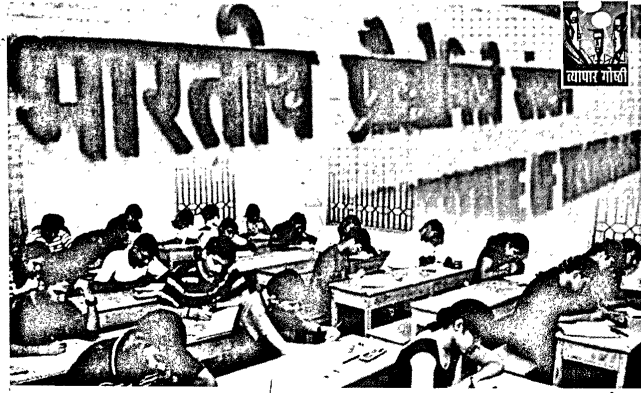
आईआईटी और आईआईएम की कंसल्टेंसी सेवाओं पर भी लगेगा टैक्स

नई दिल्ली • देश के प्रतिष्ठित आईआईटी और आईआईएम से ली जाने वाली कंसल्टेंसी सेवाओं और बड़े मल्टी-स्पेशियलिटी हॉस्पिटल के सर्जनों को होने वाले नकद भुगतान पर भी आयकर विभाग नजर रख रहा है। दरअसल, आयकर विभाग ने अपनी राष्ट्रव्यापी जांच में यह पाया है कि इस तरह के लेन-देन पर अमूमन टैक्स की अदायगी नहीं की जा रही है।

आयकर विभाग के आंकड़ों के मुताबिक देश भर में फैले आईआईटी और आईआईएम से अनेक सरकारी एवं गैर सरकारी संगठन कंसल्टेंसी सेवाएं लेते हैं। हालांकि, ये सेवाएं लेने वाले ग्राहक इन प्रतिष्ठित संस्थानों को किए जाने वाले भुगतान पर टीडीएस नहीं काटते हैं। विभाग इस तरह की कंसल्टेंसी सेवाओं को 'कॉमर्शियल' मानता है। विभाग का कहना है कि हर आईआईएम में साल भर में लगभग 40 नए कंसल्टेंसी प्रोजेक्टों पर काम किया जाता है। आईआईटी को भी इस तरह के प्रोजेक्ट मिलते हैं। विभाग की विश्लेषण रिपोर्ट में यह भी पाया गया है कि बड़े हॉस्पिटल अपने डॉक्टरों खासकर सर्जनों को भारी-भरकम नकद राशि का भुगतान करते हैं, लेकिन वे उस पर निर्धारित टीडीएस नहीं काटते हैं। (प्रेर)

व्यापार गोष्ठी : आईआईटी प्रवेश परीक्षा में बदलाव जरूरी ?

ऐसे हों परिवर्तन, जिन्हें मिले सबका समर्थन



श्रीक जगल

विशेष असर नहीं पड़ेगा

आईआईटी प्रवेश परीक्षा में होने वाले बदलाव के संदर्भ में एक महत्वपूर्ण तथ्य यह है कि इस बदलाव का छात्रों पर क्या प्रभाव होगा? प्रस्ताविक प्राप्ति के अनुसार तीन घंटे के होने वाले प्रश्न-पत्रों में भौतिक शास्त्र, रसायन शास्त्र और गणित की बुनियादी समझ का परीक्षा होगा। दूसरे प्रश्न-पत्रों में इन्हीं विषयों के उच्च स्तर की परीक्षा ली जाएगी। स्पष्ट है कि परीक्षा का प्राकृतिक पूर्ववत् रहने से पूरे परिवर्तन से बेगुना करने वाले छात्रों पर पैटर्न का विशेष प्रभाव नहीं पड़ेगा। प्रवेश परीक्षा का उद्देश्य प्रतिभाओं का बेहतर चयन करना है, इसलिए प्रश्न-पत्रों का स्तर भी अधिक भारतीय स्तर का ही रहेगा।

संतोष कुमार एम चोटीया
पुणे, महाराष्ट्र

छात्रों के हित में नहीं

आईआईटी, एनआईटी और आईआईटी के लिए एक ही प्रवेश परीक्षा के आयोजन के पीछे सही उद्देश्य होने के बावजूद यह छात्रों के हित में नहीं है। विशेषकर ग्रामीण पृष्ठभूमि में पढ़ाई-लिखाई करने वाले विद्यार्थियों को इससे नुकसान होगा। स्कूली शिक्षा में सुधार के उद्देश्य से 12वीं अंक जोड़ने का फैसला भी छात्रों के हित में नहीं होगा। क्योंकि सीबीएसई, आईसीएसई और विभिन्न राज्य के शिक्षा बोर्डों की शिक्षा प्रणाली में भेद अंतर है।

शंकर अग्रवाल
सीकर, राजस्थान

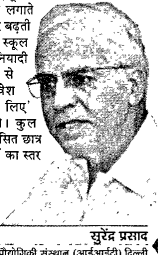
बकौल विश्लेषक

बेहतर के लिए बदलाव

भारतीय प्रौद्योगिकी संस्थानों (आईआईटी) में प्रवेश परीक्षा में बदलाव जरूरी है या नहीं, यह बेहद पेचीदा प्रश्न है। हाल में इस पर बहस तेज हुई है और इसके पक्ष और विपक्ष में सामंजस्य खोजने की भावनाएं चरम पर हैं। बहरहाल हमें एक बात जरूर मानकर चलनी चाहिए कि किसी भी प्रक्रिया में परिवर्तन बेहतर के लिए ही किए जाते हैं। इस लिहाज से आईआईटी जैसे प्रतिष्ठित संस्थानों में दखिले की प्रक्रिया भी कोई अपवाद नहीं है। वक्त के साथ हमें आईआईटी में प्रवेश प्रक्रिया को और तार्किक बनाने की आवश्यकता है। इसके लिए प्रवेश में 12वीं कक्षा के अंकों को भी महत्व दिए जाने की चर्चा हो रही है। हालांकि इसे लेकर कुछ पूर्वग्रह जरूर हैं, इसलिए हमें कोई सर्वमान्य हल तलाशना होगा। वैसे तो सीबीएसई तेज चल रहा है, वह चांचा, परखा और खरा है जिससे हमें सही प्रतिभाएं मिलती रही हैं, जिन्होंने आईआईटी के स्तर को नए प्रतिमान दिए हैं। अगर यह भी एक बकाबत है कि इनके नए प्रतिमान दिए हैं तो बेहतर जरूरी है क्योंकि परिवर्तन प्रकृति का प्राकृतिक नियम है। जो लोग दवा कर रहे हैं कि नई व्यवस्था से कॉमिंग व्यवसाय और बढ़ेगा तो उनका यह तर्क एकदम बेतुका है। एक बात याद रखनी होगी कि जब तक प्रतियोगिता रहेगी जब तक कॉमिंग का अस्तित्व रहेगा। नई व्यवस्था के तहत उन छात्रों को भी 12वीं कक्षा को बेहद गंभीरता से लेना होगा जो उसे बेहद खानापूर्वी भांति हुए प्यून प्यून आईआईटी की प्रक्रिया में भाग लेते वाले विद्यार्थियों को ज्यादा फायदा मिलेगा।

इससे कॉमिंग पर लगाए गए बदली निर्भरता भी कम होगी क्योंकि कुल में बेहतर पढ़ाई से कई निम्नगती विद्यार्थी और बर्बाद प्रतियोगिता से समझे जा सकते हैं जो प्रवेश परीक्षा में भी विद्यार्थियों के लिए भारदायक हो जा सकते हैं। कुल मिलाकर समग्र रूप से विचारकत छात्र और आईआईटी जैसे संस्थानों का स्तर और ऊपर से जा सकते हैं।

जातनील
प्रणव सिरोही



सुरेश प्रसाद
पूर्व निदेशक, भारतीय प्रौद्योगिकी संस्थान (आईआईटी) दिल्ली

उचित है बदलाव

मानव संसाधन विकास मंत्रालय ने आईआईटी, एनआईटी और आईआईटी में दखिले के लिए एक साझा इंजीनियरिंग प्रवेश परीक्षा आयोजित करने की घोषणा की थी और मंत्रालय को इस घोषणा के बाद आईआईटी कानपुर ने अपने यहाँ दखिले के लिए स्वयं की प्रवेश परीक्षा आयोजित करने का निर्णय लिया है। बर्मान में कानपुर आईआईटी का यह निर्णय खासा खर्बित हो रहा है और इस फैसले से कानपुर का यह सामाजिक संस्थान अलगा-अलगा-थकता पड़ता जरूर आ रहा है। सामाज्य में आईआईटी कानपुर के मुनाबिक स्नातक पाठ्यक्रम में दखिलेला जेईईई के तहत होता है जो सभी आईआईटी मिल कर लेते हैं, जबकि कानपुर में अपने स्वयंभू फैसले, को कानपुरी पंजीयन दिताने के लिए सभसे पहले आयोजन में स्थापना करना पड़ेगा और जेईईई ऑफ नवर्सर्स से पंजीयन लेनी पड़ेगी। भरे विचार से मंत्रालय को साझा प्रवेश परीक्षा को घोषणा का मामला इतना गंभीर नहीं था कि आईआईटी कानपुर को इतना कठोर फैसला लेना पड़े। क्योंकि कानपुरी और पर आईआईटी कानपुर खुद को जेईईई से अलग नहीं कर सकता है। मानव संसाधन मंत्रालय का फैसला भी अलग प्रतीत नहीं होता है। उस यह जरूर किया जा सकता है कि आईआईटी को खुद को तैयार करने के लिए कुछ समय दिया जाए और नया पैटर्न 2013 को जगह 2014 से लागू किया जाए।

देव सन अग्रवाल
बाराकाना, उर

के लिए भी उपयोगी साबित होगा। आईआईटी के नए पैटर्न से अब विद्यार्थियों को निरिभन प्रवेश परीक्षाओं के लिए अलग से तैयारी नहीं करनी होगी, जिससे उनको कम मार्गमिक क्षम के साथ ही तयार से तैयार मिलेगी। इसके साथ ही अलग-अलग प्रवेश परीक्षाओं के अलग आवेदन-पत्र भरने से बचने के साथ ही परीक्षा शुल्क में लागू वाली राशि की भी बचत होगी। एक ही सामान्य प्रवेश परीक्षा होने से विद्यार्थियों को आईआईटी के साथ ही अन्य संस्थानों में भी प्रवेश की प्रस्ताव मिलाने से आईआईटी की प्रवेश परीक्षा के बर्तमान प्राकृत में बदलाव विद्यार्थियों के हित में है।

देवेद अग्रवाल
उर, मर

योग्यता का सही मूल्यांकन हो सकेगा

आईआईटी अपनी प्रवेश परीक्षाओं के पैटर्न में समय-समय पर बदलाव करते रहे हैं और इसी क्रम में विद्यार्थियों पर प्रवेश परीक्षाओं का बोझ कम करने के मकसद से मानव संसाधन विकास मंत्रालय ने 2013 में मान्य डेट्ट का मन बनाया है। वर्ष 2013 से लागू होने वाले इस डेट्ट में उच्च माध्यमिक बोर्ड (12वीं) की परीक्षा में प्राप्त अंकों को अर्धमान दिया जाएगा। इस निर्णय से स्वाभाविक रूप से विद्यार्थियों को अभिमान परिस्रम करने वाले विद्यार्थियों को अपने बेहतर प्राप्तांकों का लाभ आईआईटी प्रवेश परीक्षा में मिलेगा। इस नए पैटर्न का प्रत्यक्ष फायदा यह होगा कि विद्यार्थियों को हर अलग परीक्षा के लिए तैयारी करने के बजाय एक ही परीक्षा के लिए तैयारी करनी होगी। इस परीक्षा के प्राप्तांकों के आधार पर मिलने वाली रैंक के हिसाब से प्रवेश मिलेगा।

हेमलता कान्दित
उर, मर

व्यावहारिक और सुविधाजनक

ऐसा याल्पु पड़ता है कि आईआईटी कानपुर अपने आर्थिक संकटों के संसाधन समाधान है, क्योंकि इसके एग्रेगुमिन्स एग्रेगुमिन्स के अमेरिकी सदस्य इस आईआईटी को भारी धन प्रेषणा करते हैं, इसलिए वह देश के सभी कानून-कार्य के आईआईटी की स्वायत्तता प्रभावित नहीं होगी। इस तरह उन्होंने एकदमका आईआईटी कानपुर की अलग प्रवेश परीक्षा करवाने की घोषणा कर दी। इसके एक दूसरे पहलु पर भी विचार करें- यदि देश के सभी इंजीनियरिंग संस्थान अपनी अलग-अलग प्रवेश परीक्षाओं में अपना धाम्य आनमान पड़ेगा। अभिभावकों और परिवारियों को इस मुसीबत से निवारण दिताने के लिए एकल परीक्षा का इतना गहन विचार-विमर्श के बाद स्वीकार किया गया है, यह व्यावहारिक भी है और सुविधाजनक भी। इससे किसी आईआईटी की स्वायत्तता प्रभावित नहीं होगी। आईआईटी के एक प्रस्ताव से सहमत हूँ कि प्रवेश परीक्षा में भौतिकी, रसायन और गणित के अलग-अलग प्रश्न-पत्र होना चाहिए।

कुतम रस्तोगी
मुजकान, उर

नहीं होगा उचित

कहा जा रहा है कि आईआईटी में प्रवेश के लिए होने वाली संयुक्त प्रवेश परीक्षा के स्थान पर सभी इंजीनियरिंग कॉलेजों के लिए एकल प्रवेश परीक्षा और उच्च माध्यमिक परीक्षा के प्राप्तांकों को भारिक देने से विद्यार्थियों पर बहुत भारी परीक्षाएं देने का बोझ होगा, लेकिन यह सोच गलत है। इस तरह के डेट्ट से परीक्षा में किसी बजट से अछा प्रदर्शन नहीं कर सकते वाले विद्यार्थियों के लिए यह उचित नहीं होगा, क्योंकि उन्हें फिर से बेहतर प्रदर्शन करने का मौका ही नहीं मिल पाएगा। यह तर्क दिया जा रहा है कि कॉमिंग संस्थानों को इसलिए बढ़ावा मिल रहा है, क्योंकि जेईईई गणित, भौतिकी और रसायन विज्ञान पर आधारित है। लेकिन डेट्ट में गोजिन और एग्रेगुड जोड़े जा रहे हैं, जिससे स्थिति में कोई बदलाव नहीं होगा। इससे

तो कॉमिंग की मांग और बढ़ेगी। बोर्ड परीक्षाओं के अंकों को अधिकतम देने से राज्य बोर्डों में भाग लेने वाले विद्यार्थियों को ज्यादा फायदा मिलेगा। जेईईई के स्थान पर एकल प्रवेश परीक्षा शुरू करना उर्कमंगत नहीं है।

रामेश सिंह
बनपुर, राजस्थान

आईआईटी की साख को झटका

देश ही नहीं विदेशों में अपने नाम का डंका आईआईटी ने बजाया है। आज सभी आईआईटी की प्रवेश परीक्षा को लेकर उदरुनं बहू हुई हैं। बदलाव का दूसरा नाम डिजिटल है लेकिन यह बदलाव अगर भविष्य बदलने वाला हो तो यह अजगह है। आईआईटी प्रवेश परीक्षा के बदलाव से आईआईटी की साख को झटका लगेगा। साथ ही यहां से निकलने वाले या प्रवेश परीक्षा में डेट्ट वाले छात्र हताश हो सकते हैं। सरकार को देश के इन प्रौद्योगिकी संस्थानों के इस मामले का निपटारा जल्द करना चाहिए। पूरे विश्व में प्रतिष्ठित आईआईटी विदेशों के अर्थव्यवस्था में बढाना की सुविधाएं खोल रहे हैं। इस मामले का निपटारा सोच-समझकर किया जाना चाहिए। इसके अलावा संस्थानों का काम संस्था पर छोड़ दिया जाए, जिसमें राजनीतिक पहलवेल की जरूरत नहीं है।

संतोष कुमार
कानपुर, उर

छात्रों पर बोझ कम होगा

वर्ष 2013 से आईआईटी, एनआईटी और आईआईटी जैसे शिक्षण संस्थानों में दखिले के लिए एकल परीक्षा का आयोजन होगा। इस नई र्कत के तहत 12वीं के प्राप्तांकों को भी भारिक दिया गया है। इंजीनियरिंग पाठ्यक्रम में दखिले के लिए एक छात्र द्वाप दी जाने वाली परीक्षाएं उस पर बोझ बनकर होती हैं। प्रत्येक परीक्षा के लिए समय, परीक्षा शुल्क का भुगतान और छात्रों पर पड़ने वाला मार्गमिक बोझ बेहद कठकरता है। नए पैटर्न से छात्रों पर यह बोझ कम होगा। आईआईटी संस्थानों द्वारा स्वायत्तता की बिना बेवजह है, इस तर्क में कोई ज्यादा वजन नहीं है।

रामवीर सिंह
अलवर, राजस्थान

एकल परीक्षा का विचार है अच्छा

आईआईटी में प्रवेश के लिए एकल प्रवेश परीक्षा का विचार अच्छा है। इसके लिए ऐसा पैटर्न होना चाहिए जिसमें छात्रों को कॉमिंग की जरूरत न पड़े। प्रवेश परीक्षा का पैटर्न गलत और स्कूलों की पढ़ाई पर आधारित होना चाहिए। 12वीं के अंकों को भारिक देने और एग्रेगुड डेट्ट को शामिल करने की बात कही जा रही है, जिससे कॉमिंग की मांग और बढ़ेगी। ऐसी स्थिति में कॉमिंग को कभी समान्य नहीं किया जा सकेगा। इससे छात्रों को तनू तनू की कॉमिंग लेनी पड़ेगी-12वीं के लिए, आईआईटी के लिए और एग्रेगुड डेट्ट के लिए। शहरी और ग्रामीण क्षेत्र के विद्यार्थियों के बीच फसले को कम किया जाना चाहिए।

रोशनलाल जाट
भीवाल, मर

बनी रहेगी स्वायत्तता

इंजीनियरिंग शिक्षण संस्थानों में प्रवेश के लिए एकल प्रवेश परीक्षा से आईआईटी की स्वायत्तता बरकरार रहेगी। खूद प्रधानमंत्री मनमोहन सिंह ने आईआईटी को इसका भारोसा दिलाया है। प्रधानमंत्रों ने कॉमन एग्रेगुड प्रोग्राम का विरोध कर रहे आईआईटी फैकल्टी फेडरेशन के प्रतिनिधियों के साथ बैठक में यह आश्वासन दिया है।

दीपू कुमार
कानपुर, उर

दूरदर्शी और उचित निर्णय

अभी हर आईआईटी स्वयं और स्वायत्त है। प्रवेश परीक्षा से लेकर सभी शैक्षणिक विधियों के मानडंड तय करना और उन पर अलग करारा इतने अधिकार क्षेत्र में है। इन तकनीकी संस्थानों की प्रवेश परीक्षाएं खर्बित, बहुआयामी और उतनी बढते में इतनी गंभीरवादी होती हैं कि गण्य प्रमाण क्षेत्र या पिछड़े वर्ग का छात्र जो कॉमिंग सेटों की भारी-भरकम फीस नहीं चुका सकता, वह प्रवेश पा ही नहीं सकता है। खेद इस बात का है कि इस तरह के बावजूद एक भी संस्था विश्वस्तरीय 100 श्रेष्ठ संस्थानों में जगह नहीं बना पा रही है। इस पिछड़ेपन को दूर करने के लिए एग्रेगुडता कथम के रूप में सरकार ने विश्व के ख्यातिप्राप्त विश्वविद्यालयों के मानडंड पर संयुक्त प्रवेश परीक्षा प्रणाली पर देश में लागू करने का दूरदर्शी, हिदनी और निव्वरतरी निर्णय लिया है। यह जरूरी है।

बीकेय सिंह
अलमेर, राजस्थान

स्वायत्तता प्रभावित नहीं होगी

बदलाव प्रकृति का नियम है। समय के साथ और हालात के अनुसार बदलाव होता है। प्रत्येक व्यवस्था में गुण-दोष होते हैं। यह बात आईआईटी प्रवेश परीक्षा पर भी सटीक वैदती है। सभी आईआईटी एकल प्रवेश परीक्षा पर एकदम नहीं हैं। प्रयोग के आधार पर एकल प्रवेश परीक्षा को अपनाया जरूर चाहिए। इस व्यवस्था के तहत विद्यार्थी अलग-अलग संस्थानों की प्रवेश परीक्षा से बच सकते हैं और अभिभावकों को भी अतिरिक्त आर्थिक खर्च नहीं उठाना पड़ेगा। भरे विचार से एकल प्रवेश परीक्षा के बाद भी आईआईटी अपनी विशिष्टता और स्वायत्तता बनाए रख सकते हैं।

एम एस सिद्धीदी
कडकानगर, उर

नया पैटर्न विद्यार्थियों के हित में

आईआईटी प्रवेश परीक्षा का नया पैटर्न विद्यार्थियों के लिए लाभकारी साबित होगा। इस पैटर्न में उन्हें 12वीं के अंकों को परीक्षा में भारिक अंकों का 50 परसेंट लाभ मिलेगा। इस लाभ को बेहतर हूए बच्चे 12वीं कक्षा में अच्छे अंक प्राप्त करने के लिए अधिक मेहनत करेंगे, जो आईआईटी की प्रवेश परीक्षा

शहरी विद्यार्थियों को फायदा

इंजीनियरिंग में दखिले के लिए साझा प्रवेश परीक्षा के प्राप्तांकों का जो प्रस्ताव सरकार ने रखा है उससे शहरी शहलकों में अच्छे स्कूलों में पढ़ाई कर रहे बच्चों को फायदा हो सकता है लेकिन ग्रामीण इलाकों में बड़ी मुश्किल से शिक्षा पाते बच्चों को नुकसान ही होगा। नए प्रस्ताव में मुख्य, एग्रेगुड परीक्षा के अंकों के अलावा 12वीं कक्षा के अंकों को भी लकली ले जाएगा। मानव संसाधन विकास मंत्रालय का मानना है कि इस नए प्रस्ताव से बच्चों का परीक्षा को लेकर दायज कम होगा लेकिन हमारा मानना है कि इससे बच्चों पर दायज और बढ़ेगा क्योंकि एक ही दिव दोनों तरह की परीक्षा देनी होगी।

मानव संसाधन विकास मंत्री का कहना है कि वे इस कथम के जरिरे कॉमिंग व्यवस्था को खत्म करना चाहते हैं लेकिन ऐसा नहीं हो सकता है बल्कि अच 12वीं परीक्षा, मुख्य और एग्रेगुड परीक्षा तीनों के लिए अलग-अलग कॉमिंग का रद्दना बड़ेगा। अब सरकार एग्रेगुड डेट्ट के लिए भी सोच रही है जिससे पूरी परीक्षा प्रक्रिया और जटिल होगी। अभी यह सोच रही है कि कॉमिंग की सुविधा का साथ उठा जाए लेकिन सामान्य और गरीब वर्ग के छात्रों को मुश्किल होगी। 12वीं कक्षा के अंक को तबको नहीं लेना चाहिए। 12वीं कक्षा के अंकों को भारिक देना और एग्रेगुड डेट्ट के अतिरिक्त काय प्रत्येक की केवल एक ही परीक्षा लेनी चाहिए जबकि बाहरी परीक्षा में शामिल होने वाले छात्रों और सौटों में कानूनी अंतर है। नए आईआईटीम के लिए भी कूट का जरिरे ही नामांकन के लिए छात्रों का चयन होता है तो आईआईटी के लिए ऐसी जटिल प्रक्रिया बनाने की क्या जरूरत थी? हमारा सुझाव है कि देश में सभी बोर्ड का एक सामान्य पाठ्यक्रम बनाया जाए और एक स्वीकृत डेट्ट लेकर एक निरिभन संस्था के छात्रों को आईआईटी जेईईई की परीक्षा में शामिल होना चाहिए।



आनंद कुमार
संस्थापक, सुपर 30

HT, Mumbai

AROUND 70 STUDENTS OPT FOR IIT-B

HT Correspondent

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MUMBAI: The Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs) finally declared the allotments to their various courses on Sunday after a three-day delay.

Around 70 of the top 100 Joint Entrance Exam (JEE) rankers opted for IIT-Bombay (IIT-B), which has been the trend for the past few years. While officials at IIT-B did not confirm the exact number from the top 100 who opted for the institute, Avinash Mahajan, the JEE chairperson for the Bombay zone, said, "There is little change in the number of people opting for IIT-B as compared to last year."

Last year 100 people opted for IIT-B followed by 24 students who opted for IIT-Delhi. The year before that 67 from the top 100 opted for IIT-B. For the last few years IIT-B has been the first preference of most toppers because of its reputation of sound academics combined with a large spread of extra-curricular activities.

The allotments were released at noon on Sunday but since the server was slow students took some time to see the results. "I'm happy that the wait is over and I got my first choice," said Aakash Deshpande, 17, who has secured a seat at IIT-Bombay in computer science.

Millennium Post ND 18/06/2012 P-4

AIIMS, IIT join hands to study stress in doctors

OUR CORRESPONDENT

NEW DELHI: The AIIMS Trauma Centre has joined hands with IIT-Delhi to determine the stress level in doctors and nurses managing emergency cases.

The study is being done for best treatment outcome of patients admitted in the hospital, said Dr Deepak Agarwal, assistant professor of neurosurgery at the Jai Prakash Narayan Apex Trauma Centre.

'If a doctor or nurse who is attending patients at the emer-



gency unit is stressed out, it will hamper the treatment. And whether a medical personnel is stressed out or not depends on the level of experience and training. Such a study is being conducted for the first time,' Dr Agarwal said.

Funded by the Department of Science and Technology, Dr M C Mishra, chief of AIIMS Trauma Centre, and Dr K K Biswas too are involved in this. Agarwal said the project was approved in February.

'We are in the process of testing the sensors to measure

the stress level in doctors and nurses. These are electronic sensors attached to the medical personnel's body who is attending on an emergency patient,' he said.

Regarding the role of IIT-Delhi, Agarwal said, 'After we submit the coordinated analysis of our study, IIT-Delhi will determine the mathematical level of stress and then we can chalk out ways to improve things. We expect the results to come within an year or so. It will help in improving consistency of care in emergency.'

Indian Express ND 18-Jun-12

P8

AICTE nod for shutting over 50 institutes in phase two

MIHIKA BASU

MUMBAI, JUNE 17

THERE has been an over six-fold increase in the number of technical institutes across the country which have got approval of the All India Council for Technical Education to shut down since April. In its previous meeting, the AICTE had okayed the closure of 44 institutes, taking the total to 51 at present. This includes around 32 management institutes and the remaining are engineering and MCA institutes, said AICTE Chairman S S Mantha. In the first phase, seven institutes had received the Council's nod for closure.

"We will have another meeting of the AICTE soon and the num-

bers are expected increase further. In all, 138 institutes had requested for closure," said Mantha.

Over the past few years, several states have been struggling with massive vacancies at its engineering and management institutes. This year, AICTE had received applications for permission for closure from 138 institutes and the reason cited was low admission rates. Prominent among them were states such as Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh. Among the institutes that have been given the go-ahead in the second phase, five are in Maharashtra and a large chunk is from Andhra Pradesh.

Academics said only institutes with a robust academic life, flexible curriculum in sync with the

changing market needs, quality faculty and good industry interaction or collaboration, would be able to survive current market dynamics.

"This is true of management and engineering institutes. The two streams are in huge demand among students, but few institutes offer the kind of holistic education that can make students market/industry ready," said an academician.

The number of new engineering, management and polytechnic institutes approved to start from the 2012-13 academic year is 309. This is also expected to increase after the next meet. AICTE rejected over 200 applications to start new institutes this year over various technical disciplines.

Mint ND 18/06/2012

P-5

EXCELLENCE IN INNOVATION

IIT-Madras student wins JED-i top prize

Standing wheelchair adjudged best project in the second edition of the engineering, design and innovation awards

BY SHAMSHEER YOUSAF & SIDDHAR CHARI
BANGALORE

Harshal Chaudhari, a final-year student of the Indian Institute of Technology, Madras, won the overall best project prize at the second annual JED-i Project Challenge awards on Friday for his prototypes of standing wheelchairs.

JED-i, which stands for the "Joy of Engineering, Design and Innovation", is organized by Bangalore-based engineering education company LimberLink Technologies Pvt. Ltd in partnership with the Indian Institute of Science and Mint.

Prizes were given to final-year engineering projects in three categories—mechanical, electrical and computing, in addition to the overall best project award.

1st prize-Overall/mechanical

Project: Standing wheelchair
College: IIT-M, Chennai

Team member: Harshal Chaudhari
Guide: Sujatha Srinivasan

Cited by the jury for being "innovative, well-engineered, beneficial to a large section of the society," Chaudhari built a standing wheelchair that offers three positions: standing, sitting and sleeping. While standing wheelchairs exist in other parts of the world, this project aimed to reduce the cost and make them available in India.

Unlike most other entries in the competition, this was a single-member project, and "this was one of the most difficult parts", said Chaudhari. He developed two prototypes in less than one year. "I have learnt a lot of things during this project. Most importantly, about tolerance, design for assembly and, of course, a product's design," Chaudhari said.

2nd prize-Mechanical/computing

Project: Braille reader
College: PES Institute of Technology, Bangalore

Team members: Shyamal V. Harné, Samridh Srinath, R. Sandhyaa
Guide: Kavi Mahesh

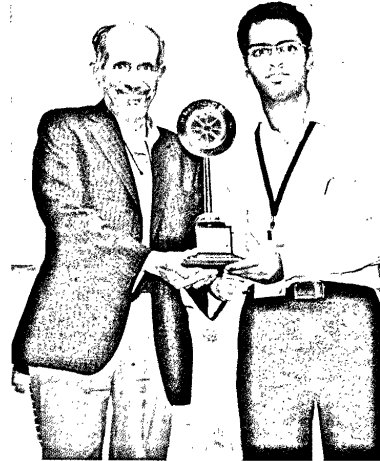
Cited by the jury for being an "innovative and feasible portable device for the visually challenged", the project is an e-book reader that overcomes the problems posed by existing products, including high cost and low portability. Electronic files are physically rendered into Braille characters.

"As computer science students, attempting such a multi-disciplinary project was a challenge and it involved a lot of self-learning. It was a rewarding and enriching experience," said Shyamal V. Harné.

Sandhyaa has a job offer from Google India, Srinath from Microsoft India, and Harné from Mercedes-Benz India. They are keen on work experience before considering a postgraduate programme. JED-i was an ideal platform to discover new ideas and receive high quality feedback, they said.

1st prize-Computing

Project: Multi-rotor UAV with GPS navigation



Top honours: Noted scientist Roddam Narasimha presents Harshal Chaudhari with the overall best project prize in Bangalore.

College: Nagarjuna College of Engineering and Technology, Karnataka

Team members: B.C. Naveen, N. Vikramaditya, R. Smitha and B.V. Soumya

Guide: H. Hemant

Cited by the jury for being a "multifaceted and complex system engineered well and demonstrated well."

The students wanted to demonstrate a military class unmanned aerial vehicle (UAV) that can be made at an affordable price. The craft can navigate autonomously using a global positioning system (GPS) and track objects.

Describing their experience working on the project, B.C. Naveen said: "One word—dangerous! The motor speeds were reaching 75,000 RPM."

They have great aspirations for their product. "Being an engineer means building a world with advanced technologies and being a responsible citizen of the country. We want to get the technology to the Army. If we can make it more user-friendly and more reliable, we can help save many soldiers' lives," Naveen said.

2nd prize-Computing

Project: Orchestra on multi-touch table

College: Jaypee Institute of Information Technology, Noida
Team members: Ankur Agrawal
Guide: Sanjay Goel

Cited by the jury for "interesting application of multi-touch techniques", this project aims at providing a digital interface for playing music instruments on a "multi-instrument, multi-instance basis which mimics the real life of acoustic instruments".

As a violinist, he began to explore how he could implement his vision using multi-touch technology. He finally decided to base the multi-touch technology on webcam-based infrared imaging.

"While I was working on the project, I learnt that we can build complex technologies using simple building blocks. I came in contact with a lot of interesting people from whom I learnt about a lot of new technologies," said Agrawal.

1st prize-Electrical

Project: Tri-metra: A wearable device for defence robotics

College: G.H. Patel College of Engineering and Technology, Anand

Team members: Utpal V. Solanki and Swapnil H. Desai

Cited by the jury for "excellent end-to-end engineering effort and concept demonstration, relevant to defence and other applications", this project aims at enabling "a soldier's head to control a robot and its orientation, and getting all-round information of the battlefield on a single eyepiece," said Utpal V. Solanki. "We enjoyed playing the role of both electronics engineers as well as mechanical engineers."

Utpal and Swapnil intend to pursue higher studies, with a particular focus on research.

2nd prize-Electrical

Project: Apparatus and method of gesture recognition

College: G.H. Patel College of Engineering and Technology, Anand

Team members: Pratik Bhatt, Nirav Faraswami and Devak Mehta

Guide: None

Cited by the jury for "innovative application with a high societal impact", this project consists of using gesture recognition technology for applications such as providing gesture-to-voice capabilities for those with speech impediments, controlling home appliances, and controlling wheelchairs and mobile phones with gesture-controlled gloves. This is done without using image processing technology such as that found in Microsoft's Kinect, a motion sensing technology used in gaming systems. The students said the project was developed with the intent to provide speech capabilities with cheaply available gesture-recognition devices.

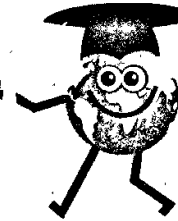
"Besides learning about design and marketing, we have also learned about protecting technical ideas by patenting the new concepts," Pratik Bhatt said.

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Times of India ND 18/06/2012 P-1(DelhiTimes)

Can get into Cornell, but not DU!

With DU cut-offs expected to soar, even many scoring above 90% are going abroad as they don't expect to get a DU college of their choice



Suruchi Sharma

Rishi Sood topped his school with a score of 94.7% in his Class XII board exams. However, Rishi and his parents are worried about getting admission in a good Delhi University college. With his cumulative score – which is the sole criterion for admission in most DU colleges – Rishi knows that he will be rejected by the top colleges. But the science student, who had also applied to various foreign universities, has got accepted in most of them, with some even offering him scholarships.

90 PERCENTERS GET CORNELL, IVY LEAGUE, BUT NOT DU

"Our first choice is St Stephen's, but we know that Rishi won't make it, at least not in the first cut-off list. Going by the results this year, it is quite possible that he might not get the course of his choice at even Hindu or Hans Raj, so we have decided to send him to Cornell University for a Biology and Society Major. We don't want to send him to any B-grade college," says Manjari Sood, Rishi's mother, adding, "Imagine! My son can get into Cornell, but not DU."

Rishi is just one of the many Class XII students who are turning to foreign universities as competition gets tougher here, even for the best of them. With Delhi University set to release its first cut-off list on June 26, many students are guesstimating that scores at some of the top colleges might even reach 100% – like last year – in some subjects. "The problem is of demand and supply," says Dr P Hemalatha Reddy, principal, Sri Venkateswara College, "There are a lot of bright young students, but the problem is that we don't have enough quality institutions."

Ankush Asri, who has scored 93 in Economics and an overall percentage of 90.3, is doubtful about getting into a college of choice. "I am trying for SRCC, but getting through seems a bit dicey. I know for sure that their cut-off won't go below 95%. The problem is that I was confident about my Class XII scores, but sadly, they didn't turn out as I expected. *Issi chakkar mein* London School of Economics miss ho gaya. But now, I've applied to Dartmouth College

in New Hampshire, US, as backup, in case I don't get Economics (Hons) in a DU college of my choice," says he.

HUM 80% WAALON KI DU KI AUKAAT NAHI HAI

Shikha Sharma, who has scored 87%, knows that she doesn't stand a chance of getting into an LSR or a Hans Raj with her cumulative score. "I'm pretty sure the cut-off list for BCom is going to be sky high. Students who have scored below 90% should simply forget about getting BCom (Hons) in good colleges. That's why I have decided I'll go to Canada. I've even applied to Saint Mary's University and Sprout School of Business," says she.

"Last year, my cousin scored 92.5%, and she missed getting Eco (Hons) at Stephen's by just 0.5%. The cut-offs in Delhi are crazy. Last year was bad enough, and this time it's going to be worse. *Ninety se neeche waalon ki toh DU ki zindagi shuru hone se pehle hi khatam hai.* Hans Raj, Hindu, SRCC, *yeh sab colleges ko hum log movies mein hi dekhenge. Andar jaane ki toh aukaat nahi hai 80% waalon ki,*" says Ankit Nagpal, who has scored 81.3% in his Class XII boards, and has decided to apply to foreign universities instead of waiting for the first cut-off list to be out. "What's the point in waiting? *Milna hai nahi.* I've told my dad, *apni jo bhi savings hai woh mujhe de do.* My dad will willingly invest in my education," he says.

MIDDLE CLASS LOOKS ABROAD

Foreign universities are also more than happy, as faced with a growing economic crisis, they have stepped up their efforts to woo Indian students. "Indian students are there in almost all foreign universities. In USA alone, they make for the second largest foreign-student population, after the Chinese. And this number is only growing. Earlier, it was only the wealthy Indian families who would send their kids to the best foreign universities, while the middle-class ones used to settle for DU as the cheaper and best option. But with DU increasingly becoming out of reach for many bright students from middle class families, these foreign universities have become their last and only option," says Ritesh Sikka from a study-abroad consultancy.



BYE BYE DU,
HUM CHALE
AMREEKA

Pics: Thinkstock Photos; Getty Images

Hindustan, ND 18/06/2012 P-9

सामाजिक विज्ञान, कला जैसे विषयों में पाठ्य सामग्री तैयार की जा रही है

आकाश टैबलेट के जरिए ई शिक्षा देने की तैयारी

नई दिल्ली | भाषा

सरकार ने किफायती टैबलेट आकाश के जरिए ई शिक्षा मुहैया कराने की तैयारी शुरू की है। इसके लिए विभिन्न क्षेत्रीय भाषाओं में ई सामग्री तैयार की जाएगी।

मानव संसाधन विकास मंत्रालय के एक अधिकारी ने बताया कि ई शिक्षा प्रदान करने में आकाश का अहम योगदान होगा। विभिन्न विषयों में क्षेत्रीय भाषाओं में ई सामग्री तैयार की जाएगी। आकाश को सूचना

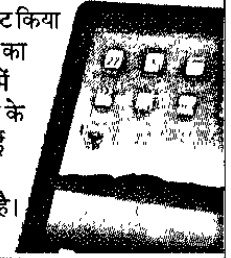
पहल

- इसके लिए तैयार की जाएगी विभिन्न क्षेत्रीय भाषाओं में ई सामग्री
- 22 करोड़ आकाश की जरूरत होगी उच्च शिक्षा मुहैया कराने को

संचार प्रौद्योगिकी (आईसीटी) के माध्यम से सभी विश्वविद्यालयों व शैक्षणिक संस्थाओं से जोड़ा जाएगा और यह शिक्षकों एवं छात्रों को उपलब्ध होगा। उन्होंने कहा कि

शैक्षणिक संस्थाओं को यह ई सामग्री किसी भी समय, किसी भी प्रारूप में उपलब्ध होगी। अधिकारी ने कहा कि आईआईटी, आईआईएसईसी जैसी संस्थाएं इंजीनियरिंग और विज्ञान विषय में ई सामग्री तैयार कर रही हैं। इसके साथ ही सामाजिक विज्ञान, कला, वाणिज्य, मानविकी जैसे विषयों में भी ई सामग्री तैयार की जा रही है। उन्होंने कहा, अब समय आ गया है कि इन विषयों में ई सामग्रियों को क्षेत्रीय भाषा में भी तैयार किया जाए। इसके लिए इन भाषाओं के

विशेषज्ञों से प्रस्ताव मांगे गए हैं। मानव संसाधन विकास मंत्री कपिल सिब्बल ने हाल ही में बताया था कि उच्च शिक्षा के मकसद को पूरा करने के लिए 22 करोड़ आकाश की जरूरत होगी। मंत्रालय ने हालांकि स्पष्ट किया कि आकाश का बड़ी संख्या में निर्माण करने के लिए कोई नई निविदा जारी नहीं की गई है।



Hindustan, ND 18/06/2012 P-10

नई शिक्षा से ही मिलेंगे नई पीढ़ी के पेशेवर

दुनिया को भारतीय पेशेवरों की जरूरत है, लेकिन हमारे संस्थान उन्हें योग्य नहीं बना पा रहे।

जयंतीलाल भंडारी
अर्थशास्त्री



देश के रोजगार क्षेत्र में प्रतिभाओं और मानव संसाधन की भारी कमी पर स्टॉफिंग फर्म मैनपावर ग्रुप की अध्ययन रिपोर्ट में कहा गया है कि पिछले वर्ष के मुकाबले इस वर्ष टैलेटैड प्रोफेशनल्स यानी प्रतिभाशाली पेशेवर ज्यादा नहीं मिल रहे हैं। इसमें करीब 19 फीसदी की कमी आई है, जबकि इन दिनों भारतीय पेशेवरों की आवश्यकता बताने वाली जो महत्वपूर्ण रिपोर्ट सामने आई है, वह बता रही है कि भारत के मैनेजमेंट, इंजीनियरिंग, मेडिकल, लॉ, अकाउंटिंग आदि क्षेत्रों के शिक्षित-प्रशिक्षित युवाओं की मांग बढ़ती जा रही है। चाहे मंदी का मुकाबला करना हो या विकास को गति देना हो, हर अभियान के लिए पेशेवर महत्वपूर्ण हैं। 2008 की मंदी के दौरान भारतीय पेशेवरों ने दुनिया के दहते हुए उद्योग-व्यवसाय को बचाने में अपनी उपयोगिता सिद्ध की थी। संयुक्त राष्ट्र की रिपोर्ट में कहा गया है कि वर्ष 2012 में दुनिया को जिस दोहरी मंदी का खतरा है, उससे निजात दिलाने में भारत के पेशेवरों की भूमिका एक बार फिर प्रभावी हो सकती है।

यह कोई छोटी बात नहीं है कि दोहरी मंदी के दौर में जब विकसित देशों में नई नौकरियां दिखाई नहीं दे रही हैं, तब भी इन दिनों अपने उद्योग-व्यवसाय को गति देने के लिए कई कंपनियां आईआईटी, आईआईएम, बी स्कूल्स की तरफ दौड़ लगा रही हैं। यह माना जा रहा है कि दुनिया में आबादी का स्वरूप इस तरह बदल गया है कि भारत की बढ़ी हुई

आबादी मानव संसाधन के मामले में आर्थिक वरदान साबित हो सकती है। भारत की जनसंख्या में करीब 50 प्रतिशत से ज्यादा संख्या उन लोगों की है, जिनकी उम्र 25 साल से कम है। दुनिया भारत को प्रतिभाओं का गढ़ मान रही है। ये प्रतिभाएं सस्ते और गुणवत्तापूर्ण काम से एक ओर भारत से आउटसोर्सिंग को बढ़ाकर कमाई कर सकती हैं, वहीं वे विदेशों में जाकर उनकी अर्थव्यवस्थाओं का सहारा बनकर डॉलर, यूरो और येन की कमाई करके देश को भेज सकती हैं।

लेकिन इसी के साथ नई रिपोर्ट यह भी बताती है कि हमें देश की नई आबादी को मानव संसाधन और पेशेवर बनाने के लिए ठोस प्रयास करने होंगे। अधिकांश युवा इसलिए पेशेवर के रूप में अपनी पहचान नहीं बना पा रहे हैं, क्योंकि शिक्षा का स्तर फिलहाल बहुत ही खराब है। देश के अधिकांश विश्वविद्यालयों एवं कॉलेजों का ध्यान सिर्फ बीई, एमबीए और अन्य विषयों के छात्रों को प्लेसमेंट प्रक्रिया में बैठाने तक ही सीमित दिखाई दे रहा है। छात्रों के संपूर्ण विकास के लिए वे कुछ खास नहीं कर पा रहे हैं। ऐसे में, दिखाई यह दे रहा है कि प्लेसमेंट के समय कंपनियां स्टूडेंट्स को कम्युनिकेशन, बेसिक नॉलेज, एप्टीट्यूट आदि की जिन कसौटियों से आंकती हैं, उनमें हमारे छात्र पीछे रह रहे हैं। अगर हमें आगे बढ़ना है और इसके साथ ही दुनिया की उम्मीदों पर खरा भी उतरना है, तो इसे बदलना ही होगा।

(ये लेखक के अपने विचार हैं)

June 19

Times Of India Chennai 19-06-2012 P-4

86 of IIT JEE's top 100 opt for IIT-B

Just 12 Top Rankers Fill IIT-D As 1st Choice, Top 3 Girls Also Favour IIT-B

Yogita Rao | TNN

Mumbai: IIT Bombay retains its favourite position with top rankers while IIT Delhi has further slipped in the preference list. This year, 77 aspirants from the top 100 IIT-JEE ranks were allotted seats in IIT B, up from last year's 70.

IIT-B was in fact the first choice of 86 of the top 100 candidates this year, though only 77 were given seats. In 2010, 67 of the first 100 had opted for IIT Bombay. IIT-D saw a dip in the numbers of top rankers opting for the institute this year, from last year's 24 to 19. Just 12 of the top ranking candidates filled IIT-D as their first choice. The three female candidates in the top 100 also opted for IIT-B.

Among the top 1,000 candidates too, around 285 opted for IIT-B followed by 224 in IIT-D. "Several factors like the location and climate are also in favour of the institute at Mumbai. The choices of top 100 students do not mean anything. Many students qualifying from the south will see Mumbai as a closer option than travelling to the north. It does not reflect on the institute," said an official at IIT Delhi.

About a decade ago, IIT Kanpur was the preferred destination for most of the top 100 rankers in JEE. But since 2005, the trend has gradually changed in favour of IIT-B. This year only three candidates from the top 100 went to IIT-K.

A total of 8,593 boys and 907 girls were allotted seats in the first round of admissions to IITs,

CUT ABOVE THE REST

OUT OF TOP 100 AIR RANKS				OUT OF TOP 1000 AIR RANKS		TOTAL ALLOTMENTS IN THE IITs	
Year	2012	2011	2010	IITs	No.	IITs	Total Allotted
IIT Bombay	77	70	67	IIT Bombay	285	IIT Bombay	285
IIT-Delhi	19	24	24	IIT-Delhi	224	IIT-Delhi	224
IIT-Kanpur	3	4	4	IIT-Kanpur	166	IIT-Kanpur	166
IIT-Madras	1	2	2	IIT-Madras	139	IIT-Madras	139
				IIT-Kharagpur	136	IIT-Kharagpur	1316
				IIT-Roorkee	40	IIT-Roorkee	1138
				IIT-Guwahati	6	IIT-Guwahati	647
				Students opted out 4			



MOST PREFERRED COURSE (as first choice)

► Computer Science and Engineering in IIT Bombay 4406 candidates	► Mechanical Engineering in IIT-Bombay 374 candidates
► Computer Science and Engineering in IIT-Delhi 1082 candidates	► Aerospace Engineering in IIT-Bombay 539 candidates
► Electrical Engineering in IIT Bombay 1016 candidates	► Total numbers of boys getting first allotment 8593
	► Total numbers of girls getting first round allotment: 907

IIT-B was the first choice of 86 of the top 100 candidates this year, though only 77 were given seats. Just 12 of the top ranking candidates filled IIT-D as their first choice. The three girls in the top 100 also opted for IIT-B. About a decade ago, IIT Kanpur was the preferred destination for most of the top 100 rankers in JEE. But since 2005, the trend has gradually changed in favour of IIT-B. This year only three candidates from the top 100 went to IIT K

which started Sunday after a three-day delay. Of the 17,465 shortlisted for counselling, 1,476 candidates opted out of it. Out of the top 100 too, rank 69, has opted out of IITs. "Students who might have done well in other entrance exams might have opted out of

IIT if they got lower ranks here. Also some of the students might have gone abroad for higher studies," said a institute official.

While Arpit Agrawal, the IIT-JEE-2012 topper opted for IIT-D, the next eight ranks after him chose IIT-B. Nishit Agrawal, all-

India rank 6 and Mumbai zone topper was the only student to opt for electrical engineering, rest of the top 10 chose Computer Science and Engineering (CSE). CSE was among the most popular choices at IIT-B and IIT-D followed by electrical, mechanical and aerospace engineering at IIT-B. Only 668 candidates got the course and allotment of their first choice, 390 got their second choice and 379 got their third preferred option. A student had the choice of filling several options, the maximum being 215 courses. In 2011, 1,382 candidates got the course and allotment of their first choice.

Fewer girls qualify, despite rise in applications

Of the candidates who got admission offers, 9.55% were girls, a marginal dip from last year. In 2011, 10.1% female candidates got seats in IITs. "We were expecting more girls to get seats this year as there was a steep rise in the numbers of female candidates (33% of total candidates) appearing for JEE.

However, their numbers dipped marginally," said G B Reddy, IIT-JEE chairman, Delhi. Around 11 foreign nationals also made it to the IITs this year. "In spite of the delay in the release of the first allocation round, there will not be any change in the rest of the schedule. The second and third round of allocation will happen on the same day as scheduled. After students reject the seats, the vacant seats will be thrown up for the second round," Reddy said.

Indian Express Ahmedabad 19-06-2012 P-8

IIT-Bombay most preferred by JEE rank-holders

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, JUNE 18

IIT-Bombay is the most sought after IIT this year, data related to the first round of JEE counseling has revealed. Eighty-six of the top 100 rank-holders have indicated IIT-Bombay as their first choice while 12 have opted for IIT-Delhi as their first choice.

Computer science and engineering is the top course with 4,406 candidates opting for it at IIT-Bombay and 1,082 at IIT-Delhi.

Electrical engineering, mechanical engineering, and aerospace

engineering are the other high-preference courses.

IIT-Bombay held its sway across courses as well as gender. Of the top 45 women candidates, maximum have listed their preference for IIT-Bombay, followed by IIT-Delhi. While 13 women candidates have opted for IIT-Bombay, 10 will go to IIT-Delhi. Computer science and engineering, and chemical engineering are preferred over other courses by women candidates, a statement issued by Joint Entrance Examination chairman Prof G B Reddy reveals.

A total of 17,465 candi-

MISSION ADMISSION		
Top 100 IIT candidates	Top 45 women candidates	Women candidates (course wise)
Bombay: 77	Bombay: 13	Computer Science & Engineering at IIT-Bombay: 9
Delhi: 19	Delhi: 10	Computer Science & Engineering at IIT-Roorkee: 8
Kanpur: 3	Kanpur: 9	Chemical Engineering at IIT-Delhi: 7
Madras: 1	Roorkee: 8	Electrical Engineering at IIT- Kanpur: 6
	Madras: 5	

dates were shortlisted for counseling this year while 13,197 candidates were selected for counseling in IIT JEE-2011. In the first round of seat allocation 9,500 candidates, including 11 foreign nationals, were allotted seats and 6,479

candidates did not get any seat due to various reasons. While 907 (9.55 per cent) women candidates got the admission offer, 127 physically disabled students will make it to IITs. No OBC seat and SC seat were left unfilled, the JEE statement

says. A total of 668 candidates got the course and the institute of their first choice, 390 candidates got the course and the institute of their second choice, and 379 candidates got the course and the institute of their third choice.

Indian Express Chandigarh 19-06-2012 P-7

IIT-Bombay is the first choice of JEE toppers

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE

NEW DELHI, JUNE 18


IIT-Bombay is the most sought-after IIT this year, data related to the first round of JEE counselling has revealed. While 86 of the top 100 rank-holders have indicated IIT-Bombay as their first choice, 77 have made it to the institute. As many as 12 rank-holders have opted for IIT-Delhi as their first choice.

Computer science and engineering is the top course with 4,406 candidates opting for it at IIT-Bombay and 1,082 at IIT-Delhi. Electrical engineering, mechanical engineering, and aerospace engineering are the other high-preference courses.

IIT-Bombay held its sway across courses as well as gender. Of the top 45 women candidates, maximum have listed their preference for IIT-Bombay, followed by IIT-Delhi. While 13 women candidates have opted for IIT-Bombay, 10 will go to IIT-Delhi. Computer science and engineering, and chemical engineering are preferred over other courses by women candidates, a statement issued by Joint Entrance Examination chairman Prof G B Reddy reveals.

A total of 17,465 candidates were shortlisted for

IIT MISSION ADMISSION



TOP 100 CANDIDATES

BOMBAY	77
DELHI	19
KANPUR	3
MADRAS	1

TOP 45 WOMEN CANDIDATES

BOMBAY	13
DELHI	10
KANPUR	9
ROORKEE	8
MADRAS	5

counselling this year while 13,197 candidates were selected for counseling in IIT JEE-2011.

In the first round of seat allocation, 9,500 candidates, including 11 foreign nationals, were allotted seats and 6,479 candidates did not get any seat due to various reasons.

Indian Express Pune 19-06-2012 P-4



Police take away a Vidyarthi Bharti Sanghatna activist during a protest outside Mantralaya on Monday.

PRASHANT NADKAR

IIT-B remains toppers' favourite

MIHIKA BASU
MUMBAI, JUNE 18

YET again, the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Bombay, has retained its position as the most preferred destination among the top rankers of the Joint Entrance Examination (JEE). After the first round of seat allotment this year, figures revealed that 77 of the top 100 candidates, considered to be the "elite," have got admission offers at IIT Bombay, with 86 candidates having listed the institute as their first choice.

While 12 listed IIT Delhi, one each gave IIT Madras and IIT Kanpur as their first choice. Besides IIT Bombay, admission offers among the top 100 students have been made to 19 for IIT Delhi, three for Kanpur and one for Madras. Among the top 10 rankers, eight opted for IIT Bombay, while two chose IIT Delhi.

"We offer a broad-based kind of education. The curriculum is flexible and not regimented and students have a variety to choose from. This could be a reason why IIT Bombay's popularity has gone up over the years," said Avinash Mahajan, chairman of JEE 2012 from IIT Bombay.

Many years ago, IIT Kanpur was the most preferred among

JEE RANKHOLDERS' FIRST CHOICE

IITs	2012	2011	2010	2009	2008	2007	2006	2005
Bombay	77*	70	67	69	54	50	46	52
* admission offers, 86 listed as 1st choice								
Delhi	19*	24	24	16	27	29	28	21
12 listed as 1st choice								
Kanpur	3*	4	4	6	9	15	20	17
1 listed as 1st choice								
Madras	1*	2	2	9	10	5	6	7
1 listed as 1st choice								
Guwahati	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Kharagpur	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	3
Roorkee	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

(Figures represent top 100 rankers)

(Source: IITs)

top rankers. However, an analysis of students' choices in the last few years show that IIT Bombay followed by IIT Delhi are now the top choices. IIT Kanpur's popularity among top scorers has dipped steadily - from 17 among the top 100 in 2005 to four in 2011. Further, while old favourites like Kanpur and Madras have slipped, in the preference list over the last few years, Guwahati and Roorkee have failed to get even one among the first 100; IIT Kharagpur had three in 2005 and one in 2007.

The trend has remained consistent since 2005, when 52 of the top 100 rankers opted for IIT Bombay, and the institute's popularity has been on a rise.

Last year, 70 of the top 100 preferred to join IIT Bombay, followed by 24 at IIT Delhi.

Multiple factors such as a flexible curriculum, its location in the country's financial hub, research opportunities, industry interface, facilities available, career avenues and its growing popularity among top companies in India and abroad and the recognition of the institute as a brand globally are some of the factors that have led to this shift over the past few years, say experts.

Among the top 498 too, IIT Bombay is a clear winner with 196 students, followed by 119 at Delhi, 91 at Kanpur, 55 at Madras, 36 for Kharagpur and one at IIT Roorkee. None of

the top 498 rankers have chosen the new IITs or Guwahati. A similar pattern continues among the top 1,000 which includes 285 for Bombay, 224 for Delhi, 166 for Kanpur, 139 for Madras, 136 for Kharagpur, 40 for Roorkee and six for Guwahati.

Academicians and students said the overall ambience and a "happening" campus life are other factors which have contributed to IIT Bombay's increasing popularity, which includes popular festivals such as 'Techfest' and 'Mood Indigo'.

Among the top 45 women candidates, 13 have opted for IIT Bombay, followed by 10 at Delhi, nine at Kanpur, eight at Roorkee and five at Madras. This year, 668 students got the course and institute of their first choice.

After the first round, 9,500 candidates were allotted seats and 6,479 did not get any seat owing to various reasons. "As we had decided the qualifying mark for each category in advance, the effective cut-offs for OBCs, SCs and STs were lower this year. No OBC or SC seat was left unfilled after first round. This year, 9,647 seats are available for admission and 147 are yet to be filled up. Most of the vacancies are in PD category," said Mahajan.

HT, Lucknow

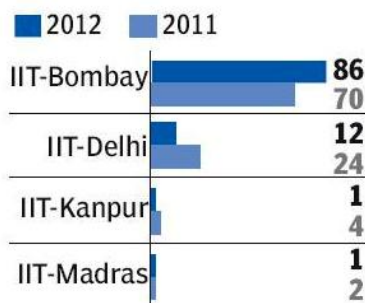
WHICH IIT, AND WHY?



■ The first round of admission counselling ended on Monday.

Factors like academic programmes, placement opportunities and location of institute come into play when candidates have to make their choice

First choice among top 100 candidates



Institutes' tally from top 100 (2012)



Most preferred course

While IIT-Bombay has held the fancy of JEE candidates over the last four years, the course of choice has been computer science and engg

Institute	2012	2011
IIT Bombay		
Comp. Science & Engineering	4,406	3,352
Electrical Engineering	1,016	1,393
Mechanical Engineering	874	784
Aerospace Engineering	539	415
IIT Delhi		
Comp. Science & Engineering	1,082	964

MANAGEMENT STUDIES: AICTE PLANS ENTRANCE TEST ABROAD

Vanita Srivastava

■ vanita.srivastava@hindustantimes.com

NEW DELHI: The All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) plans to hold a common management admission test (CMAT) abroad to help non-resident Indian (NRI) children attempt for admission to management institutes here.

AICTE chairman Dr SS Mantha said since the first CMAT in February 2012, many prospective students abroad have been enquiring about it.

“We have 3,800 management schools across the country. We will target the Gulf countries which have a good strength of Indians. Eventually, we will focus on US and Europe also,” he said.

At present, Mantha said, AICTE was working on logistics. “Once that is through, we will go ahead with our plan. I’m not sure if we will be able to make this arrangement when we conduct the next CMAT in September. But by next February, we will be able to conduct the exam abroad.”

The CMAT, he said, would become an alternative option to the GMAT for NRI students over the years. “Eventually, every AICTE-affiliated institute will have to switch over to the CMAT.”

As many as 50,000 students appeared for the first CMAT against a projected figure of two lakh.

Mantha said there were plans to increase the number of centres in India and ensure that candidates get centres close to their preferred locations. “I will also persuade state universities also to consider the CMAT for admission to their institutes. This will further broaden the reach of CMAT,” he added.

Publication: The Times Of India Delhi; Date: Jun 19, 2012; Section: Times Nation; Page: 10;

e-paper

Online content censorship up 49%: Google

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: As part of its 'transparency report', Google on Monday said that it had received 101 content removal requests from Indian authorities between July and December last year, asking it to delete 255 items from its websites. Of these, just five requests were made by courts.

Google, which runs services like YouTube and Blogger apart from the widely used search engine, said the number marked an increase of 49% in such requests compared with January-June 2011 period. In terms of requests made by the government bodies excluding courts, India topped the list as it sent 96 requests to Google to remove content. However, in terms of number of items that governments wanted to remove, Brazil, US, UK, Germany and Spain were ahead of India.

According to the Google data, the company was asked to remove 130 items, including 77 videos on YouTube, because they were deemed



defamatory. Another 25 items, including 24 videos, were considered hate speech. The interesting bit was that of these only 25 items — 23 on the blogs hosted by Google and two on other Google sites — were considered defamatory by a court.

"This is the fifth data set that we've released. And just like every other time before, we've been asked to takedown political speech," Dorothy Chou, senior policy analyst wrote at the official Google blog. "It's alarming not only because free expression is at risk, but because some of these requests come from

countries you might not suspect — Western democracies not typically associated with censorship."

National security and piracy, touted as primary reasons by government officials behind the push for control on the web, didn't lead to many content removal requests in India. Google was told to remove only two items because of copyright reasons and only 10 videos on YouTube because they were considered a threat to national security. At the same time, the company was told to remove 22 items because of impersonation risk and seven items because the content was 'offensive' to religions. Also, requests were made to remove two videos from YouTube because they were too violent in nature and one item was deemed pornographic.

As far as removing the content was concerned, Google said it complied with 80% requests received from Indian courts. But for requests made by police or other government agencies, it complied in only 26% cases. "For the six months of

data we're releasing today, we complied with an average of 65% of court orders, as opposed to 47% of more informal requests," wrote Chou.

While Google officials were not available to comment on Monday, in its earlier report the company had explained that it did not comply with all requests. "We received requests from (Indian) state and local law enforcement agencies to remove YouTube videos that displayed protests against social leaders or used offensive language in reference to religious leaders. We declined the majority of these requests and only locally restricted videos that appeared to violate local laws prohibiting speech that could incite enmity between communities," the report said.

Between July and December, Google also received 2,207 requests from Indian authorities seeking access to user data. In total, these requests targeted 3,427 accounts/people. Google said it complied with 66% requests.

June 20

Govt may soften stand, asks IIT-D to call meeting

HOPE ON HORIZON IIT-Delhi will conduct senate meeting to discuss admission exam, among other issues, on June 21

Vanita Srivastava

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NEW DELHI: In what can be described as a 'softening' of stance, the government has asked the Indian Institute of Technology(IIT)-Delhi director to convene a meeting of the Joint Admission Board (JAB) to deliberate on the modalities and format of the JEE (advanced) exam.

Besides this, there were indications that the JEE (advanced) test could be held on a separate day, and adopt a subjective format — in accordance with the demands of the IITs. It was also speculated that only IITs would be granted the responsibility of conducting the JEE (advanced) test, meant for the top 50,000 students screened from the JEE (main) examination.

According to sources, the manner in which the board marks would be used to decide on merit may also be 'reconsidered'. Board marks, on the other hand, could be used just as a "filtering" measure — as is the current norm.

The speculations, however, can be confirmed only after the JAB meeting later this month. If this happens, the government would have fulfilled most of the major demands of the IITs.

The premier institutions had been demanding that board marks should not be included in the selection process, and the JEE (advanced) test should be subjective — to be conducted by the IITs themselves.

IIT-Delhi will conduct a senate meeting — with the JEE issue figuring in its list of agendas — on June 21. "The senate meeting will discuss issues related to undergraduate admis-

IIT-Kanpur to open office in US

NEW DELHI: IIT-Kanpur has decided to open an office in the United States to recruit quality researchers and academicians to the institute.

The proposal was formally approved at the board meeting on June 1. This is probably the first time an IIT is spreading its wings globally to attract quality faculty members. "We have formed a committee to decide where the office should be located by July. It will become operational by year-end," Manindra Agarwal, dean of Resource, Planning and Generation told HT.

"Many US and European universities have offices in India. We strongly feel that there is a need to make our presence felt in a location that would provide us with lots of resources. The US will be an

excellent platform for procuring faculty members and donations," he said.

Acknowledging that faculty shortage is a major challenge facing IIT-Kanpur; he said, "This problem has arisen because we cannot compromise on quality. Owing to faculty shortage, we are not able to offer many courses too. This has also prevented us from offering flexibility to the faculty, and has prevented us from forming big research groups."

Since a large percentage of the faculty comes from the US, Agarwal said the US-based office would help tap prospective candidates. "It will also act as a catalyst for raising funds and increasing research collaboration with varsities and industry in the US." **NEW DELHI, HT**

IIT senates hold that the institutes should have complete control over the JEE (advanced) test, and want a proper debate on school board marks.

SOMNATH BHARTI
IIT-D Alumni Association head

sion to IIT on June 21," confirmed Dr Sanjeev Sanghi, president of the IIT-Delhi Faculty Forum.

A special senate meeting of IIT-Kanpur was convened for the purpose on May 8, during which it passed a resolution to conduct a separate exam in 2013.

IIT-Delhi Alumni Association president Somnath Bharti maintained that the general feeling among the IIT senates was that the exam should not be held in 2013.

"They also hold that the IITs should have complete control (not only academic) over the JEE (advanced) exam, and there should be proper debate — based upon data obtained from school boards — on the feasibility of giving weightage to school board marks in the JEE (mains)," he said.

Human resource development minister Kapil Sibal is keen on introducing the new examination pattern from next year.

Asian Age ND 20/06/2012

P-5

CET: Centre to write to IITs

**AGE CORRESPONDENT
with agency inputs
NEW DELHI, JUNE 19**

Despite the resistance from the IIT faculty as well as alumni, the government may soon write to the joint admission board of the IITs to prepare the modalities for conducting the proposed common entrance test for admission to engineering programmes under the new format.

The HRD ministry could soon ask the joint admission boards to finalise modalities of the advance exam, one of the compo-

The government may soon write to the joint admission board of the IITs to prepare the modalities for the proposed common entrance test

nents of the two-tier test which would be implemented from 2013 onwards.

The development comes as the Council of Boards of

School Education is also expected to meet later this month to discuss issues related to coordination among different boards on matters such as holding the plus-two board examinations on time and time-bound declaration of results. The new system would take the board results into consideration for preparing the merit list. The IIT faculty and alumni have been opposing the move tooth and nail, demanding that the new system should not be implemented before 2014.

They contend that the

proposed common entrance test would undermine the autonomy enjoyed by the IITs and dilute the IIT brand.

Indications are that IIT Delhi senate, which is expected to meet on June 21, could also follow on the lines of IIT Kanpur. The latter has decided to hold its own entrance test following its rejection of the new system. The faculty federation has met Prime Minister Manmohan Singh and voiced its opposition, stating that it has been assured by him that autonomy of IITs will be maintained.

Indian Express ND 20-Jun-12

p6

HRD to tell board to begin work on new JEE format

**ANUBHUTI VISHNOI
NEW DELHI, JUNE 19**

UNFAZED by the opposition mounting against the new JEE format in the IIT community, the Human Resource Development Ministry has begun moving to take the proposed common entrance exam forward.

Kapil Sibal's ministry will write to the IIT Joint Admission Board (JAB) to prepare for the JEE Advanced Test and start working out the finer points related to it, highly placed sources told *The Indian Express*. JEE Advanced is the exam under the proposed new common en-

trance format that will determine the final merit list for IIT admissions.

Since IIT Delhi is currently handling the JAB position, the ministry will send a communication, asking them to define the "nature, modalities and timing" of the exam. The ministry is of the opinion that it must be left to the IITs to decide whether they want a subjective/objective JEE Advanced, the nature of questions to be put, when and how often the exam should be conducted, whether or not they would like collaboration with CBSE for administrative assistance or even

whether they would like to engage a testing agency to conduct the exam.

The ministry has already set up groups/committees to handle academic, administrative and test delivery aspects among other areas related to holding the common entrance exam.

Sibal, who chairs the IIT Council, had announced on May 28 that starting 2013, a new common entrance exam format for admission to IITs, NITs, IIITs and other centrally funded technical institutes would come into effect. According to this format, Class XII board marks will be factored in for determin-

ing eligibility of a student aspiring for admission to an IIT.

The new JEE will have two components — JEE Main (for screening) and JEE Advanced (for the final IIT merit list) — with 50 per cent weightage to Class XII scores at the screening stage.

The proposal is being opposed by the IIT Senates and alumni. IIT Kanpur Senate has gone as far as to pass a resolution saying that they would boycott the 2013 common entrance exam and instead hold their own JEE.

Members of the All In-

dia IIT Faculty Federation also met the Prime Minister last week on the issue and were assured that the autonomy of IITs would not be compromised. The federation raised three specific demands as well — that no change should be effected in JEE 2013 and the present system should continue, that Senates of IITs be allowed to take decision on admission in IITs to ensure the academic autonomy of the IITs and consideration of board marks from 2014 to be worked out over a period of time after analysing the board data and results from the dry run.

Deccan Herald ND 20/06/2012 p-1

Centre in no mood to bow to IITs

Prakash Kumar

NEW DELHI: The government appears unlikely to bow to pressure from a section of IIT faculty and alumni to drop its proposal for a joint entrance examination for admission to centrally-funded engineering colleges, including 15 premier technical institutes.

Sticking to the "unanimous" decision taken by the Council of the Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs) and other central-

ly-funded technical institutions, the Human Resource Development (HRD) Ministry is moving fast with preparations to hold the maiden joint entrance test in 2013.

The Ministry is likely to write to the Joint Admission Board (JAB) of IITs, which is functioning from IIT-Delhi, on Wednesday to finalise the "nature, modalities and timings" of the JEE-Advance test, government sources said. The IIT Council, National Institutes of Technol-

ogy (NITs) and Indian Institutes of Information Technology (IIIT) have unanimously decided to hold the test in two parts, JEE-Main and JEE-Advance.

The JAB has been given "complete control" over the JEE-Advance test in matters like paper setting, evaluation and preparation of the merit list as the ranking of candidates for admission to undergraduate programmes in IITs would be based "entirely" on the performance in the JEE-Advance.

"It is up to the JAB to decide whether the JEE-Advance should be conducted the same day as JEE Main or on different days," sources said.

According to the IIT council decision, the Class XII Board marks, normalised on percentile basis through an appropriate formula, plus the marks obtained in the JEE-Main examination, with equal weightage, would be used by IITs for screening candidates.

► IITs, Page 7

Centre in no mood to bow to IITs

IITs, from Page 1

Candidates screened through this process will be allowed to take JEE-Advance.

For all other centrally-funded institutions, there would be 40 per cent weightage for performance in Class XII Board marks normalised on percentile basis through a formula, 30 per cent weightage for performance in JEE-Main and 30 per cent weightage for JEE-Advance.

The JEE-Main test will be multiple choice, objective type paper, whereas the nature and modalities of the JEE-Advance will be determined by the JAB.

The Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) will provide the administrative and logistic support for the conduct of JEE-Main examination across the country and only administrative support for the JEE-Advance.

"The JAB has to decide how much control it would like to have over the conduct of JEE-Advance and to what extent it would like to have administrative support from the CBSE," government sources said, clarifying the decision of the Council.

Those students who have appeared in the Class XII Board examinations in 2012 and wish to improve upon their performance can appear again for the Board examinations in 2013. "The CBSE and State Boards would make appropriate arrangements to facilitate this through a special dispensation," an HRD Ministry official said referring to the IIT Council's decision.

As part of the preparation for the joint entrance test, a process for co-ordination between Council of Boards of School Education in India (COBSE) for implementation of the core curriculum in Science and Mathematics across the CBSE, ICSE and State Boards has also been initiated. "A meeting of COBSE is likely to be held in the last week of this month," sources said.

DH News Service

Pioneer ND 20-Jun-12

p1

Defiant Sibal goes ahead with combo JEE

IIT-Delhi tasked with devising new format

DEEPAK KUMAR JHA ■
NEW DELHI

Unmoved by recent controversies, the HRD Ministry is pushing ahead with the proposed Common Entrance Test for engineering colleges, including the prestigious IITs, from the year 2013.

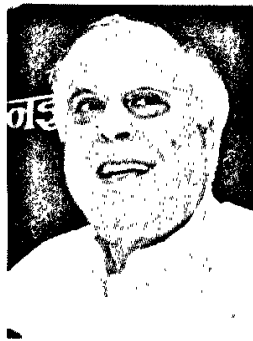
While the Prime Minister Manmohan Singh has already conveyed his feelings for maintaining the autonomy of IITs, the Ministry has asked the Joint Admission Board (JAB) of the Council of IITs to prepare the academic modalities as soon as possible for the proposed JEE 2013. For the JEE

2013, IIT Delhi has been tasked to devise the new format.

The Ministry has conveyed its decision to the JAB in a written communication.

On a question whether the IIT-Kanpur, which had decided to conduct separate test, would consider only their score and ignore scores of the common test, the official said the candidate would have the option to knock the doors of judiciary. "They cannot ignore the score of the JEE-Advanced test conducted by JAB of Council of IITs," he added.

The single entrance test tops the agenda of the COBSE (Council of Board of School Education) meeting on June 28, two days before the States have to respond to the new JEE format by June 30. Interestingly, the



IIT-Delhi Senate meets on Thursday to discuss the independent entrance test pattern on the lines of IIT-Kanpur in defiance to the HRD Ministry. The IIT-Mumbai Senate, sources said, would also meet on June

27 to discuss the matter.

The HRD Ministry has also asked Deemed Universities across the country to come on board and consider the single entrance test for entry in their institutes offering engineering degree. The matter has been listed in the agenda for the meeting of deemed universities scheduled for June 25, 2012. The meet would be chaired by HRD Minister Kapil Sibal.

The departments of higher and technical education have requested the heads of Deemed Universities to consider the proposal.

"They would be free to join in the process and have the autonomy to determine their own relative weightage to normalised Class 12 marks, performance in JEE-Mains and

JEE-Advanced," say minutes of the agenda.

The nature and modalities of the JEE-Advanced, the success in which would enable a student to secure a berth in an IIT, would be determined by the JAB of IITs.

"To conduct the JEE-Main examination an expanded JAB will be constituted, including the NIT system, other CFTIs and State Government representatives. But for IITs, there will be a different JAB drawn from Council of IITs. The process of establishing co-ordination between COBSE & JAB-IITs for implementation of the core curriculum in sciences and maths across the CBSE, ICSE and State Boards will be discussed at June 28 meet," said a top HRD official.

Pioneer ND 20-Jun-12 p6

One nation-one test plan under IIT-B scrutiny

TN RAGHUNATHA ■ MUMBAI

In an effort to break the deadlock over HRD Minister Kapil Sibal's controversial 'one nation-one test' proposal for IITs and other centrally-funded technical institutes, faculty members of IIT-Bombay are meeting on Wednesday to discuss various compromise formulae.

This is the first of the initiatives undertaken after Prime Minister Manmohan Singh assured the All India IIT Faculty Federation (AIITFF) on June 15 that IITs' autonomy would remain intact. A majority of the IITs are opposing the new exam pattern, in which two sets of examinations — the main and advanced exams — are to be held on the same day and in which 50 per cent weightage will be given to Class XII marks. Among the formulae to be discussed are "if a student has to get admission to IITs, he has to be in the top 10-20 percentile as per board exams," a source said.

According to the second formula, the CET examination to be conducted by the HRD Ministry will be "used to screen and select the top 50,000-plus students (without considering board performance) who will be eligible to give the IIT's own JEE". Third, IITs' own JEE would be held on a separate date after results of the main exam. This will be owned and conducted by the IITs. Final merit list is to be based only on performance of this JEE subject to the percentile cut-off. IITs should be allowed to decide the format of JEE — subjective, objective, machine readable subjective.

If these proposals are incorporated, faculty members are not averse to introduction of the new exam pattern from 2013 itself.

Economic Times ND 20-Jun-12 p1

JEE पास होकर भी IIT के लिए ना

सर्टिफिकेट पर जेईई की सख्ती से 800 ओबीसी छात्र नहीं लेंगे इस साल दाखिला

[श्रेया विश्वास नई दिल्ली]

एन्ट्रेंस एग्जाम (जेईई) पास करने के बावजूद अन्य पिछड़ा वर्ग के करीब 800 छात्र इस साल आईआईटी में दाखिला नहीं लेने जा रहे हैं। दरअसल, ऐसा इसलिए हुआ है क्योंकि जेईई कमेटी इस साल फर्जी सर्टिफिकेट पर बहुत सख्ती बरत रही है। जेईई वह संगठन है जो सभी आईआईटी और कुछ दूसरे संस्थानों के लिए एंट्रेंस एग्जाम का प्रबंधन करती है।

जेईई की प्रवेश परीक्षा में कुल 4.8 लाख छात्र शामिल हुए थे, जिनमें से 4,804 ओबीसी उम्मीदवार पास हुए। 800 छात्रों के नाम वापस लेने के बाद इस कैटेगरी में सिर्फ 4,000 छात्र बचे, जो 2,604 आईआईटी सीट की दौड़ में हैं। इनमें से कई सीटें इस हफ्ते पहली काउंसलिंग के बाद भर जाएंगी। आईआईटी-जेईई 2012 के ऑर्गेनाइजिंग चेरमैन प्रोफेसर जी बी

रेड्डी ने कहा, 'इनमें से कई छात्रों ने अपना नाम इसलिए वापस लिया, क्योंकि उन्हें इस बात का डर था कि गलत जानकारी देकर बनाए गए सर्टिफिकेट से उन्हें आईआईटी में दाखिले का मौका नहीं मिलेगा।' जेईई की परीक्षा पास करने वाले प्रत्येक 6 ओबीसी उम्मीदवारों में से 1 ने या तो अपना नाम वापस ले लिया या फिर जनरल कैटेगरी में नाम ट्रांसफर कराने का आवेदन किया है।

जनरल कैटेगरी में आने के बाद वे आईआईटी सीट के लिए मेरिट के दम से प्रतियोगिता करेंगे, न कि किसी रिजर्वेशन के साथ। ऐसा पहली बार हुआ है जब छात्र ओबीसी कोटा से अपना नाम वापस ले रहे हैं। करीब 200 छात्रों ने अपना नाम जनरल कैटेगरी में शामिल करने पर विचार करने

को कहा है। बाकी 600 छात्र जिन्होंने कोटा के तहत आवेदन किया था, उन्होंने काउंसलिंग के लिए रजिस्ट्रेशन नहीं कराया है। पिछले साल के मुकाबले इस साल 500 : ज्यादा छात्रों ने अपना नाम वापस लिया है। इस साल आईआईटी-जेईई ने जाली सर्टिफिकेट के खिलाफ सख्त कदम उठाते हुए उम्मीदवारों को यह चेतावनी दी है कि अगर वे दोषी पाए जाते हैं, तो आईआईटी की

परीक्षाओं में शामिल होने पर जीवन भर की पाबंदी लग जाएगी।

यहां तक कि ओबीसी कैटेगरी में जो परिवार आते हैं, उनकी सालाना आमदनी 4.5 लाख रुपए से कम होने पर ही वे नॉन-क्रीमी लेयर में होंगे और ओबीसी कैटेगरी की सहूलियतें ले सकेंगे।

Rashtriya Sahara ND 20/06/2012 P-11

एचआरडी मंत्रालय आईआईटी के संयुक्त नामांकन बोर्ड को लिखेगा

नई दिल्ली (एजेन्सी)। आईआईटी शिक्षक एवं पूर्व छात्र संघ के प्रतिरोध से अप्रभावित सरकार जल्द ही आईआईटी संयुक्त नामांकन बोर्ड को नए प्रारूप के तहत इंजीनियरिंग संकाय में दाखिले के लिए प्रस्तावित साझा प्रवेश परीक्षा के संबंध में रूपरेखा तैयार करने के लिए पत्र लिखेगी।

सूत्रों ने कहा कि मानव संसाधन विकास मंत्रालय संयुक्त नामांकन बोर्ड को एडवांस परीक्षा की रूपरेखा को अंतिम रूप देने के लिए कहेगा। साल 2013 से प्रस्तावित द्विस्तरीय परीक्षा में पहली मुख्य परीक्षा और दूसरी एडवांस परीक्षा ली जाएगी।

यह बात ऐसे समय सामने आई है जब स्कूली शिक्षा बोर्ड परिषद की इस महीने बैठक होने वाली है जिसमें विभिन्न बोर्ड 12वीं बोर्ड परीक्षा आयोजित करने और समय पर परिणाम घोषित करने के विषय पर समन्वय स्थापित करने के संबंध में चर्चा करेंगे। आईआईटी शिक्षक और पूर्व छात्र संघ प्रस्तावित परीक्षा का पुरजोर विरोध कर रहे हैं और मांग कर रहे

साझा प्रवेश परीक्षा

हैं कि नई व्यवस्था 2014 से पहले लागू नहीं की जानी चाहिए। ऐसे संकेत मिल रहे हैं कि आईआईटी दिल्ली की सेनेट 21 जून की बैठक में आईआईटी कानपुर के रुख का अनुसरण कर सकती है।

Amar Ujala ND 20/06/2012
P-1

जेईई में 12वीं के अंकों को महत्व नहीं!

नई दिल्ली (ब्यूरो/एजेंसी)। इंजीनियरिंग में सिंगल प्रवेश परीक्षा के जोरदार विरोध के मद्देनजर अब सरकार आईआईटी, फेकल्टी और एल्युमिनाई की कुछ मांगें मान सकती है। इनमें बारहवीं के अंकों को प्रवेश परीक्षा में महत्व नहीं दिए जाने की मांग भी शामिल है। बताया जा रहा है कि सिंगल प्रवेश परीक्षा पर बने गतिरोध को तोड़ने के लिए मानव संसाधन विकास मंत्रालय में इस मुद्दे पर विचार विमर्श चल रहा है। सूत्रों का यह भी दावा है कि प्रस्तावित जेईई मेन तथा एडवांस परीक्षा को एक ही दिन आयोजित कराने के स्थान पर इसे अलग-अलग दिन आयोजित करने का फैसला भी किया जा सकता है। विस्तृत पेज 9 पर

जेईई में 12वीं के अंकों को महत्व नहीं!

आईआईटी फेकल्टी और एलमुनाई की
कुछ मांगें मान सकती है सरकार

अमर उजाला ब्यूरो/एजेंसी

ई दिल्ली। इंजीनियरिंग में सिंगल प्रवेश परीक्षा के जोरदार विरोध के मद्देनजर अब सरकार आईआईटी फेकल्टी और एलमुनाई की कुछ मांगें मान सकती है। इनमें बारहवीं के अंकों को प्रवेश परीक्षा में महत्व नहीं दिए जाने की मांग भी शामिल है। बताया जा रहा है कि सिंगल प्रवेश परीक्षा पर बने गतिरोध को तोड़ने के लिए मानव संसाधन विकास मंत्रालय में इस मुद्दे पर, विचार विमर्श चल रहा है।

सूत्रों का यह भी दावा है कि प्रस्तावित जेईई मेन तथा एडवांस परीक्षा को एक ही दिन आयोजित कराने के स्थान पर इसे अलग-अलग दिन आयोजित करने का फैसला भी किया जा सकता है। सूत्रों ने बताया कि आईआईटी फेकल्टी और एलमुनाई प्रवेश परीक्षा में बारहवीं के अंकों को महत्व दिए जाने के प्रस्ताव का विरोध कर रहे हैं। इसी के मद्देनजर अब मंत्रालय में इस प्रस्ताव को हटाने पर चर्चा चल रही है। हालांकि मंत्रालय में राय बन रही है कि प्रवेश परीक्षा का नया मॉडल 2013 में लागू हो रहा है, इसे में सिर्फ पहली बार ही 12वीं के अंकों को महत्व नहीं देने की मांग मान ली जाए। आगे के सालों में 12वीं के अंकों को प्रवेश परीक्षा

जेईई मेन तथा एडवांस की परीक्षा एक साथ नहीं कराने का भी हो सकता है फैसला

2013 से नए पैटर्न को लागू करने की राह में आ रही अड़चनों को दूर करने की कोशिश

में महत्व दिया जाए। क्योंकि 2014 से 12वीं के अंकों को प्रवेश परीक्षा में महत्व देने से फेकल्टी को भी ऐतराज नहीं है। मालूम हो कि केंद्रीय वित्त पोषित इंजीनियरिंग संस्थानों के लिए आईआईटी, एनआईटी तथा आईआईआईटी काउंसिल ने 28 मई को बैठक में संयुक्त प्रवेश परीक्षा कराने के प्रस्ताव को स्वीकार कर लिया था। इसके तहत प्रवेश परीक्षा में दो प्रश्न पत्र जेईई मेन तथा जेईई एडवांस छात्रों को एक ही दिन में हल करने होंगे। आईआईटी काउंसिल ने जेईई मेन तथा इंटरमीडिएट में प्राप्त अंकों के आधार पर मेरिट बनाने का फैसला किया था। इस बीच, आईआईटी दिल्ली सीनेट की 21 जून को बैठक होने जा रही है।

Economic Times ND 20/06/2012 P-1

Scores of Fake Backwards Back Out of IIT Race

The Rat Race for IITs



One in every six OBC applicants who cleared IIT-JEE are now in doubt

STUDENTS IN ALL CATEGORIES

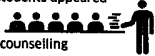
4,79,651 Lakh

Total no. of students appeared

17,462

Selected for counselling

9,647 Seats across 17 institutes (recognising JEE scores) including IITs



STUDENTS IN OBC CATEGORY

1,36,572

No. of students appeared

4,805

Students selected for counselling



2,604

Total number of seats

200

Candidates opted out of OBC, moved to general category

600 Candidates opted out of counselling (last year - 108)



Clampdown on fake certificates does the trick

SHREYA BISWAS
NEW DELHI

Eight hundred IIT aspirants from the other backward classes (OBC), who made it past the Joint Entrance Exams, have stopped short of pressing their claim for the coveted admissions this year. This is a direct fallout of the JEE Committee slamming down on fake certificates. JEE is the body that administers joint entrance exams for all IITs and a few other institutes.

Of the total 4.8 lakh students who appeared for the JEE, 4,805 OBC candidates got through. After the withdrawals, only 4,000 remained in the

fray for the 2,604 IIT seats available in this category. All these seats have just been filled this week in the first round of counselling.

"A majority (of those who withdrew) did fear their chances of getting into IITs might fall due to fake certificates," says GB Reddy, organising chairman of IIT-JEE 2012.

Effectively, one out of six OBC candidates who made it past the highly-competitive exams had pulled out or requested to be transferred to the general category, where they had to compete for an IIT seat on merit without the advantage of any reservation.

Life Ban Threat Worked >> 3

Life Ban Threat Worked

>> From Page 1

Two hundred students asked to be considered under the general category, withdrawing their claim under the OBC quota for the first time ever. The remaining 600 students who had applied under the quota did not register for counselling. This figure is at least 500 more than the withdrawals seen last year.

This year, IIT-JEE had come down hard against fake certificates and warned that such candidates, if detected, would be barred from IITs for life.

There was also another reason for the withdrawals. Even within the OBC category, those coming from families with household income of less than Rs 4.5 lakh (excluding salary from a government job and agriculture) are considered under the non-creamy layer category and are eligible for reservation for government-sponsored educational and professional benefit programmes. There was a proposal to revise this to Rs 9 lakh and Rs 12 lakh for rural and urban centres. But this did not materialise. Candidates who had applied expecting this may also have pulled out later.

"A warning was issued following some complaints from individuals, after the application process started, who called in to say many candidates who were claiming to be under the OBC category (non-creamy layer) did not belong to the category. The committee then cross-checked with the OBC Commission's website and found it was true. Hence, we issued a warning," says Prof RK Shevgaonkar, director, IIT-Delhi, which is the organising institute for this year's JEE.

Students who qualify under different reserved categories need to submit their category certificates by post at the time of counselling.

Registration for counselling in all engineering colleges that accept JEE scores ended on June 10, and the first round of final seat allotment was announced on June 17.

About 5.07 lakh students had applied for IIT-JEE this year. A total of 9,647 seats are available across 17 institutes, including the IITs, IT-BHU Varanasi and ISM Dhanbad.

HT, Kanpur

IIT-Kanpur to open office in US

NEW DELHI: IIT-Kanpur has decided to open an office in the United States to recruit quality researchers and academicians to the institute.

The proposal was formally approved at the board meeting on June 1. This is probably the first time an IIT is spreading its wings globally to attract quality faculty members. “We have formed a committee to decide where the office should be located by July. It will become operational by year-end,” Manindra Agarwal, dean of Resource, Planning and Generation told HT.

“Many US and European universities have offices in India. We strongly feel that there is a need to make our presence felt in a location that would provide us with lots of resources. The US will be an

excellent platform for procuring faculty members and donations,” he said.

Acknowledging that faculty shortage is a major challenge facing IIT-Kanpur, he said, “This problem has arisen because we cannot compromise on quality. Owing to faculty shortage, we are not able to offer many courses too. This has also prevented us from offering flexibility to the faculty, and has prevented us from forming big research groups.”

Since a large percentage of the faculty comes from the US, Agarwal said the US-based office would help tap prospective candidates. “It will also act as a catalyst for raising funds and increasing research collaboration with varsities and industry in the US.”

HTC

HT, Kanpur

Decks cleared for IIT-Kanpur's American office

Haidar Naqvi

■ haidernaqvi@hindustantimes.com

KANPUR: IIT Kanpur is all set to open an office in the US to attract good researchers and academicians. A two-member team reached the US on Tuesday to finalise the location for the office. With the overseas office, IIT-K will be the first in the country to have a global footprint.

“We have formed a committee and this will decide on the place where the office should be located. We are hoping that the office will start functioning from July,” Manindra Agarwal, dean resource, planning and generation told HT. Notably, the institute’s board of governors formally cleared the proposal to open an office in the United States in its June 1 meeting.

“So many US and European universities have their offices in India. We strongly feel that there is a need to have our presence at a location that provides us with lots of resources. The US will be an excellent platform for getting faculty and donations,” he added. He is in the US with director Prof Sanjay G Dhande, and has interviewed 20 candidates, shortlisted for various academic streams.

It may be mentioned that the proposal for an overseas office was pushed in the lines with vision 2030—a plan to tide over the problem of faculty shortage

and to raise funds for its research works. To filling up its two-third of vacancies, the IIT would have to increase its faculty strength from 350 to 550 by 2020, and double that by 2030. This aside, the institute is thinking big in terms of increasing its income from Rs350 crore to Rs4,000 crore by 2030.

As per sources, the office would either be set up in New York or Washington, though the final decision is yet to be taken. Initially, the office will have a secretary and a faculty member to coordinate with the faculty network, run by alumni Raj Bordia, to build a presence in the US. Faculty network would works in tandem with faculty affairs wing of IIT-K to maintain a good faculty pool.

If needed the IIT-K would add more objectives for the office other than tapping good faculty and donations.

V Chandra Sekhar dean, faculty affairs, said, “This office will help the institute greatly in realising its expansion plans. Since we have a policy of no compromise on quality, it will expose us to those teachers who really fit the bill.”

“Shortage of good faculty indeed is a major issue for us. The institute wants teachers with PhDs from reputed universities and on relevant topics. They should also have research papers published in the international journals,” he said.

Mail Today, ND 20/06/2012 P-18

By Mail Today Bureau in New Delhi

TWILL TWO decades ago, the brightest and the best minds hankered for a seat in IIT Kanpur. Preferences, however, have changed dramatically. And now Bombay is the new Kanpur. Since 2005, IIT Bombay, the second oldest IIT, has been consistently attracting the largest chunk of the best Joint Entrance Examination (JEE) rank holders.

This year, IIT Delhi stands a distant second with just 12 candidates of the top 100 rank holders opting for it.

The yawning gap, according to professor O.B. Reddy of IIT Delhi, cannot be attributed to just one factor. The reasons giving IIT Bombay an edge are mostly twofold, he says.

"It will be unfair to say that probably IIT Bombay has better faculty as it really isn't the case. We are as good as them, but sometimes a reason as small as climatic conditions can become the deciding factor. The Capital's weather is extreme. There are students who even prefer IIT Bombay for the climatic conditions of its host city," said Reddy, who is also the organising chairman of IIT JEE 2012.

IIT Delhi also takes a hit because of the Capital's poor reputation in terms of safety. "Mumbai, on the other hand, is the city that never sleeps," said a student who did not wish to be identified.

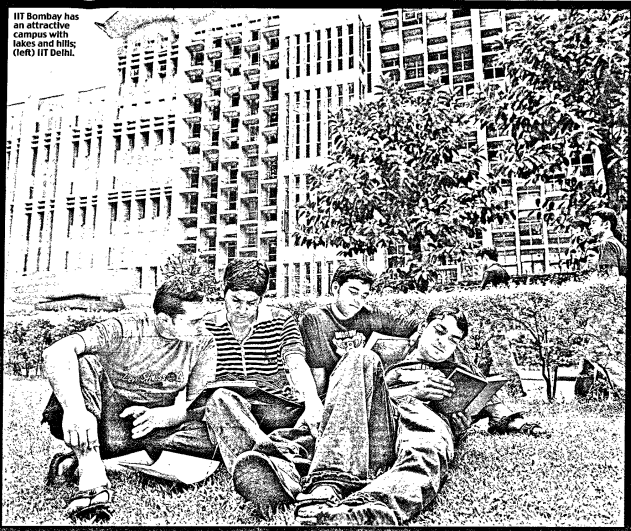
And there is, of course, the all-pervasive advice of elders and coaching institutes, which is mostly based on perception, but plays a crucial role in most students' opt for one institution over another.

"At that age, career choices are based on an advice and not on any solid research. It's when you join an IIT, irrespective of Delhi or Bombay, that you realise there isn't any difference in the quality of the education imparted," said Anirudh Datta, a student of chemical engineering at IIT-Delhi.



IIT-Bombay is drawing toppers & stealing a march over other IITs for its 'lucrative placements and extra-curricular activities'

IIT Bombay has an attractive campus with lakes and hills. (left) IIT Delhi.



IIT-B FOR BONANZA

ANOTHER factor, according to IIT-Delhi's faculty, that works in favour of the institute in Bombay is the fact that for the last few years, a large number of top 100 JEE qualifiers from the southern states and their first choice is naturally closer home — in Mumbai.

"This logic, however, is questionable as this year, several rank holders from among the top 100 from Punjab have chosen IIT Powai over Delhi.

Shivan Darg (41 India rank 66), from Chandigarh; Vipul Jain (41 India rank 29) from Bangur district in Punjab and Bijoy Kochar (all India rank 21) from Mohal did not list Delhi as their first preference even though it is closer home.

All three have got a seat in computer science in IIT-Bombay. For them, the Institute's strong alumni base and its substantial effect on placements influenced their choice.

"Mumbai is the financial capital of the country and many companies are headquartered there. There is a strong perception that it is natural for them to

100 JEE QUALIFIERS' CHOICE

IIT	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Bombay	50	54	69	68	70	86
Delhi	29	27	16	24	24	12
Kanpur	06	10	09	05	04	01
Madras	15	09	06	03	02	01
Kharagpur	0	0	0	0	0	0

Why IIT-Bombay is preferred over IIT-Delhi

■ **EXTRA-CURRICULAR EDGE:** The Institute has greater focus on extra-curricular activities. Its Mood Indigo event is the largest college cultural festival in Asia (in terms of participation and number of events). Students from campuses all over India meet and compete.

■ **PLACEMENT:** IIT-B has a stronger alumni base which helps in placements. For 2010-11, 2011 IIT-B ranked the campus 1st/2nd/12, close to 90 per cent of students were placed by the first place ending in December 2011.

■ **CLIMATE:** The weather in Mumbai is any day better than in the Capital.

■ **ADVICE:** Many coaching classes, especially in Kota, have created a perception of IIT-B being the best. Students are advised to opt for it.

'Both are good' but city glitz gives IIT-B an edge

By Mail Today Bureau in New Delhi

FOR IIT-B alumni, the Institute is a "Mocca" for engineering students — mainly for the placements and extra-curricular life.

The fact that this year's second and third toppers of JEE opted for IIT-B only proves this. Bijoy Kochar, second ranker, hails from Mohal, which is closer to IIT-Delhi, but decided to take admission in Mumbai because "everybody had good things to say about it".

He admitted it was a difficult choice. "Both IIT-D and IIT-B are good. But I and most of my friends finally went for the latter. The decision was based on the recommendations we received in Mumbai's favour," he said, adding that "when I visited the city for the first time in May this year, I liked it."

Interviews with other top rankers also disclosed that Mumbai's status as the corporate hub of India and the attractive IIT-B campus in Powai, which has lakes as well as hills on its premises, also influenced the choice.

Mohit Khandelwal, the first ranker hailing from Chhatrapati, said he chose Mumbai because it offered better exposure. Like most toppers, he has decided to study computer science, which is "supposed to be the best here".

According to students, there is also a history of the Mumbai campus producing successful alumni.

The IIT-B campus has a livelier atmosphere and gives a chance for "round personality development". The Mood-Indigo festival is a "highlight of the year" for students.

Another alumina, Nitin Sharma, gave a different reason for IIT-B's popularity — the "Mumbai" tag. "The IIT-B campus has a better environment and gives a better chance for all-round personality development. While there is focus on extra-curricular activities, the students are also encouraged to study hard. Mood-Indigo festival is a matter of pride for students of IIT-B as it is hosted every year," Sharma said.

According to students, there is also a history of the Mumbai campus producing successful alumni.

NOTABLE IIT-BOMBAY ALUMNI

- JAIRAM RAMESH**
He got the IIT's Distinguished Alumni Award in 2001. Ramesh, rural development minister, passed out in 1975.
- NANDAN NILEKANI**
Chairman of the unique identification authority, he got a B.Tech in electrical engineering in 1978.
- SANJIV BHATT**
He got an M.Tech degree in 1985. He is known for filing an affidavit with the SC concerning Narendra Modi's alleged role in the 2002 riots.
- SUDHENDRA KULKARNI**
He passed out from IIT in 1980 and joined BPL in 1986. The police have called him the cash-for-votes scandal mastermind recently.

Suicides & tough exams keep IIT-K out of demand

DIFFICULT exams and suicide cases are deterring students from choosing IIT Kanpur, according to the Institute's faculty and alumni.

A faculty member said, "There is a perception that clearing internal examinations here is difficult."

On preference for IIT Bombay, he added, "Mumbai is preferred because of its glamour and climate. It is also centrally located, for south as well as north Indian students. But

The grading system is unnecessarily tough. And every year students commit suicide here.

— Omendra Bharat, ex-student

we don't agree to the survey of top 100 JEE qualifiers' choice because the trend will be known only when we talk to at least 1000 students."

Omendra Bharat, a former student, said, "The grading system is unnecessarily tough. And every year students commit suicide here, usually during semester exams. So the mentoring parents and new students in spite to parents and new students in spite, there is a problem in the internal exams." He said poor entry preparation was also deterring students.

— Piyush Srivastava, ex-student

HT, Chandigarh

5 students of IIT Ropar placed for ₹45-lakh package

Bahadurjeet Singh

■ chdlivedesk@hindustantimes.com

RUPNAGAR: Five students of the first batch of Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Ropar, have been placed on annual package of Rs 45 lakh (\$80,000 approx) per annum by US-based companies during a placement drive on the campus.

Divya Sharma, BTech, CSE, 2008 batch; Prateek Garg, Tushar Gupta and Shashank Sharma got placement in US-based software company Epic Systems while Ishan Chhabra got placement in another US-based firm Rocketfuel on a salary package of Rs 45 lakh per annum.

More than 20 reputed companies and banks both indigenous and foreign like Microsoft India Development Centre, Infosys Ltd, Ericsson India Global Services Pvt Ltd, Impetus, Samsung, Bank of India, BPCL, MU-Sigma, PayPal/e-bay India Pvt Ltd had participated in the placement drive.

"About 87% of students of the first batch have got placement in reputed companies on an average salary package of Rs 8.5 lakh per annum with highest package of Rs 45 lakh per annum, which is quite remarkable for a newly established IIT," said Prabhsharan Singh, training and placement

About 87% of students of the first batch have got placement in reputed companies on an average salary package of ₹8.5 lakh per annum

PRABHSHARAN SINGH
placement officer, IIT Ropar

officer, IIT Ropar.

"All the students of CSE had got placement, as there was greater demand for them, while most of the students of other two streams electrical engineering and mechanical engineering also got placement. Some of the students of these streams, who were offered jobs by the companies, had gone abroad for higher studies," said Singh.

However, he said many students of these two streams refused to appear in the tests for the placement due to low salary package offered by some companies.

IIT, Ropar, had started functioning in 2008 on its transit campus offering only three courses, including computer science and engineering (CSE), electrical engineering (EE) and mechanical engineering (ME) with a strength of 40 students each. The first batch of the students passed out from the Institute this year.

Hindu, ND 20/06/2012 P-12

The enigma of Indian engineering

James Trevelyan

My time in South Asia has rewarded me with an enigma: why is engineering so expensive here? Why is it often many times more expensive than in Australia, my home?

My search for answers led me to shanty towns on the fringes of mega-cities. We compared an award winning Indian factory making car parts for Detroit and Stuttgart with a leading Australian factory supplying parts for the mining industry. My Indian PhD student spent months with engineers in both countries, broadening his focus to water utility engineers and small to medium engineering firms. His knowledge of local dialects and customs was critical.

He related a typical meeting. A young engineer quietly reported zero production from the machines in his production cell. His manager asked why but he remained silent. Both knew the reason. The machine operators were newly hired day-labourers because the previous ones had exceeded their 180-day limit. Other engineers said their machines were still not fixed by the maintenance crews. The manager sighed: he would have to raise it with his boss later. Direct authority from the plant manager would be needed to move the maintenance head into action.

Daily struggle

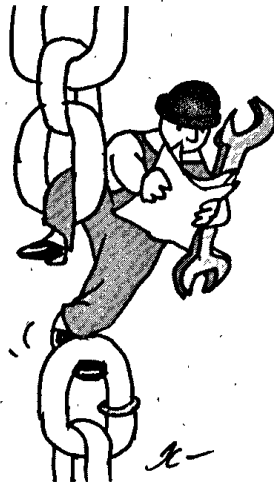
Discussions with water utility engineers revealed their daily struggle to coordinate valve operators who turn on water for an hour at a time every two days in different wards in their city district. Their mobile numbers are well known in the district: the more influential residents will call them at any time of the day with complaints or requests. They have to personally "twist arms" of recalcitrant customers to get them to pay bills, or have their sewerage line blocked at the same time as the water is disconnected. "That usually makes them pay up quicker," they told us. Sewerage seeps from tens of thousands of such broken and half repaired connections into the scheme water lines.

At a government school in the city outskirts, the principal showed me the smelly green water dribbling from the pipe into a below-ground tank. With no toilet or usable water, the children and staff left after a couple of hours. I glanced at the forest of antennas atop the brand-new mobile phone tower I could see beyond the school wall.

Today, mobiles are everywhere in South Asia and can cost less than 1 cent per minute for talk time.

Villagers on the Rawalpindi outskirts told me they had paid up to Rs. 50,000 to install their own wells with hand pumps. Before I helped install an electric pump at their high school, ironically called "Thanda Pani", the children had to carry water in buckets for up to an hour a day just to use the toilets.

A narrow education is making engineers oblivious to the importance of human interaction and raising the cost of even simple tasks



To understand why villagers would pay so much for a hand pump, I turned to development economics. The 'shadow price' cost of unpaid labour can predict the economic cost for women to carry water from nearby wells or district water taps. Rs. 13 per hour doesn't sound like much. Yet, a one hour round trip to carry home an average of 17 litres of water, often with extra time and fuel to boil it, results in a bulk water cost of about Rs. 1200 per tonne. Today, ultra-clean potable water is being delivered to my house in Perth at a total cost of about Rs. 80 per tonne.

I have checked, rechecked and double checked my data because I was so surprised at this difference. No matter which method you use — a hand pump, bribing government carriers to bring water when you need it, buying it in 20 litre plastic containers — safe drinking water is many times the cost in Perth.

Energy also costs many times more. With intermittent supplies, one needs a UPS or generator to run electrical equipment reliably. In addition, electric machines are usually inefficient and poorly maintained so it can be four-five times as expensive to achieve the same results as in Australia. Bulk users like steel plants have reported to me that they face twice the electric energy cost of their competitors in industrialised countries.

How could South Asian electricity and wa-

ter services be so expensive and phones so cheap?

Could corruption explain this? Reliable sources estimate the additional cost at 15-25 per cent. However Australia is not immune: dishonest behaviour imposes significant extra costs there as well.

There had to be other factors.

First-hand experience employing local engineers in South Asia taught me to recalibrate Australian performance expectations, even though they had degrees from the best foreign and local universities. This led me to the possibility that differences in engineering practice are a major contributing factor, the ways that engineers perform their work.

My research ran into an unexpected snag. When I started, there were almost no detailed research reports on engineering practice, anywhere. To cover this gap, my students and I interviewed and shadowed engineers across the region. Now we have some answers.

Many people think engineering is applied science. It works the same in Perth, Pune, Paris or Pocheon: you will get the same results from the same experiments.

However, engineering is much more than applied science. Engineering is a coordinated social performance of many people with the technical expertise distributed among them, like an orchestra. Social interactions constrain the results just as the strength of steel limits the height of our tallest buildings.

In South Asia, hierarchical organisations, language differences, and deep social chasms disrupt the performance. For instance, artisans will only speak when asked, and will keep silent if speaking means loss of face for superiors.

It turns out that engineering education, around the world, is almost blind to the realities of practice. We found 40 other critical aspects that educators inadvertently miss or misrepresent. As a result, young engineers seem oblivious to the subtleties needed to coordinate people and their education seems to impair their ability to learn. It turns out that skills like this distinguish the few truly expert engineers.

It is no surprise, therefore, that most young engineers stumble into their first jobs, often feeling incompetent. There is no point blaming educators: it is just an accident that only a tiny number of research studies have tried to work out how engineering is actually done.

A few expert South Asian engineers have

overcome these education barriers, and they earn salaries *higher* than their counterparts in Australia. This is no surprise: they make their enterprises work. Sadly, most young Indian engineers never have a chance to learn their unwritten skills. Even though students in Australian engineering schools learn equally few practical skills, there are enough experienced engineers in most firms for young engineers to emulate.

In Australia, a copious water supply and sanitation takes around 2 per cent of the economic resources of a family. In South Asia, barely enough potable water to survive can take 20-40 per cent of a family's economic resources. Effective engineering in Australia accounts for much of the difference.

Therefore, it is not the lack of money that influences national poverty as ineffective engineering that imposes crippling high costs for water, energy and other essential services. Good engineering liberates human effort for social developments such as governance, healthcare, education, social services and even recreation.

Mobile phone revolution

The mobile phone revolution has transformed expensive, corrupt, inefficient government monopolies with appalling service into thriving, profitable enterprises providing high quality service at minimal cost, around the world. India is no exception.

Although we can't be sure, there seem to be some key human factors. First, mobile technology increases investor confidence: people can't steal the service without paying. The phone won't work without a pre-paid card or reliable credit. Second, the technology provides reliable and efficient ways to collect a vast number of small payments and reassures users that their credit will be secure. Third, the social chasms between engineers and the technicians who work with the equipment are easier to surmount than in the case of water and electricity. Fourth, the saving in time, measured as an economic value, more than makes up for the cost for users.

Success has come from human factors invisible to most engineers, inadvertently blinded by their education.

I think the next engineering revolution will be based on understanding people. We have come quite far with rather little understanding among engineers: just a little more could lead to large improvements. A new engineering revolution could consign poverty to history, and also enable us to live within the capacity of this planet to support human civilisation. It needs to come soon.

(James Trevelyan is Winthrop Professor in the school of Mechanical and Chemical Engineering at the University of Western Australia. His book How to Become an Expert Engineer is due to be published later this year.)

Disability, as measured by whatever yardstick

PRITHA CHATTERJEE
NEW DELHI, JUNE 19

SEVENTEEN years after an Act was introduced to provide equal opportunities to the disabled, inconsistency continues to plague the process of evaluating just how much a person is disabled. Disability is today expressed in percentage terms but a uniform system of certification eludes the country.

A candidate whose locomotive disability was certified at 40 per cent by the Darbhanga Medical College, authorised for this purpose by the Bihar government, ranked 113 in IIT-JEE this year under the general physically handicapped category. Yet, during counselling, he was found unfit for admission because a medical board comprising AIIMS doctors ruled his disability was only 23 per cent.

In 2003, an MBBS student diagnosed with a locomotive disability was denied admission by Delhi University to a postgraduate course, his certificate from the state government's Lok Nayak Hospital notwithstanding. And in 2007, a partially blind student of Delhi University was denied a writer to assist her in exams, though a state government certificate had put her vision loss at 50 per cent.

At the centre of such disputes are candidates who, eyeing the 3 per cent reservation under the Disability Act, invariably have certificates from state medical colleges but then find these rejected by boards appointed by central institutes.

This year, Delhi University abolished its medical board and declared that a certificate from any government medical college would do. Dr Bipin Tiwary, dean of students' welfare in DU's wing for the physically handicapped, says, "A question we raised was that being a government university, how can we doubt the integrity of certificates issued by our own government hospitals? This double examination causes undue harassment for students."

But the IITs and the IIMs, the UPSC, AIPMT, AIIMS, JIPMER, and JNU all insist on a double check. "If we can sit for the entrance on the basis of our existing certificate, why do we need to go through an examination by a separate board after we qualify in the same entrance?" says Amit Kumar, the IIT aspirant who lost out this year. IIT authorities say their rules are advertised beforehand. "If the candidate had a problem with the rules, he should not have applied, or should have protested earlier," says Dr G B Reddy, IIT-JEE chairperson.

RIGHT TO CERTIFY

In 2002, the Delhi High Court observed that though the Persons with Disabilities Act, 1995, stipulates that a medical board specified by notifications will be authorised to issue disability certificates, no such notifications had been passed till then. This was after a petition by an NGO. "For the last more than six years, it did not occur to the authorities that the basic requirement is to specify such medical authorities by means of a notification," the court observed.

The court identified nine govern-



CHECK LIST

UNDER CENTRAL GUIDELINES, THESE ARE THE VARIABLES TO CHECK FOR

LOCOMOTOR DISABILITY

- STRENGTH OF MUSCLE
- RANGE OF JOINT MOTION
- COORDINATION
- STABILITY
- LIMB LENGTH DISCREPANCY
- HAND FUNCTION
- SENSATION
- DEFORMITY
- PAIN, INFECTION etc.

FACTORS such as amputation, congenital loss of limb, neurological conditions, dwarfism

VISION DISABILITY

- ACUITY OF VISION
- FIELD OF VISION
- HEMIANOPIA, or loss of vision in one side of either eye, as a result of neurological disorders
- ALTIUDINAL DEFECT (in lower field)

HEARING DISABILITY

- HEARING LOSS IN dB IN EACH EAR
- SPEECH DISCRIMINATION

ment hospitals in Delhi; this was followed by a Central directive that government hospitals across the country would be authorised to issue such certificates. But a survey in 2010 found barely 35 per cent of the disabled had managed a certificate.

In December 2009, the Act was amended and fresh guidelines issued, aimed at decentralising the procedure. On paper, the issuing authority was changed from a medical "board" to an "authority". A list of central government hospitals was notified to issue certifications for three kinds of disabilities—locomotive, visual and hearing. A tiered system was created under which "obvious" disabilities could be certified by even primary and community health centres, "non-obvious" disabilities examined by a single specialist; multiple disabilities checked by a board set up for that. Three years on, no hospital among AIIMS, Safdarjung, PGI Chandigarh and JIPMER has made a single-specialist decision. Doctors say a board helps reach "consensus" in a dispute.

The amendment also saw the first official guidelines being released for

expressing disability in percentages. It set a deadline for issuing a certificate—between a week and a month of request—but at AIIMS, say, the waiting list runs into months. Besides, the objective of decentralisation is defeated by the fact that no state other than Gujarat, Bihar, Goa and Tamil Nadu has notified the new rules.

DISCREPANCIES

Says Dr Anoop Raj, head of the ENT department at Maulana Azad Medical College associated with Lok Nayak Hospital, "Now we have formed a general rule in our department. We don't let our doctors consult past certificates of candidates, because we found they were getting influenced."

In ENT, doctors say they do audiometry tests if loss of hearing is obvious, a speech test if there is any room for doubt, and a brain response system for evaluation. "A district hospital will have an audiometry test but not the more advanced tests. These are the problems that create differences," Dr Raj says.

Dr Nonica Laisram, head of phys-

ical medicine and rehabilitation at Safdarjung Hospital, insists the 2009 guidelines are specific. "When other states follow their own rules, it creates disputes. We do not

have this problem within our department, but we usually give certificates only to patients who have been treated in our OPD, except in medico-legal cases."

And, says JNU's dean of students' welfare Prof Abdul Nassey, "Different states still follow different rules, even though all certifications are from government hospitals. The medical officer in our health centre evaluates these candidates again, to factor in these variations and take the final decision."

The tests are standard in visual disability, for instance. However, says AIIMS's ophthalmology head Dr R V Azad, "It depends on how the doctor factors in small margins, say the difference between 6/16 and 6/18. If small centres do not have the facilities for all tests, they may be doing their own thing... We have so many rules. We have the WHO rules for certifying blindness, we have our own rules under the National Blindness Control Programme, and we have a completely different set of guidelines from the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment for certifying disability."

DISPUTE

Reena Bhatia, who was denied a writer by DU in 2007, says, "On the one hand we are told that even primary health centres are authorised. But I had a certificate from a state medical college, and even that did not satisfy the university."

Doctors from states accuse the Centre of a "hedonistic attitude". "When our institute, which has government authorisation, says the student is disabled, what right has the IIT to subject him to a second examination, and actually counter our claims?" says Dr Suraj Nayak, medical superintendent at Darbhanga Medical College. "We follow all standard guidelines." AIIMS doctors who examined Amit Kumar felt his condition could have improved through surgery.

A Delhi High Court judgment in 2003 had certified that the decision of a government medical college would be binding and always override boards set up by institutions. "On a conjoint reading of Section 58 of the Disabilities Act and Rule 4 of the Disability Rules, it will be crystal clear that individual universities, institutions or establishments have no alternative but to accept a certificate issued by the medical boards constituted by the governments," the court had observed.

University authorities say they double check for fear that the disability clause has been misused. Yet, as Dr Tiwary of DU points out, "Such misuse is possible in all reservations. We have so many cases of fake caste certificates being generated... Viewing the disabled with this suspicion is not justified."

PWD to conduct temporary repairs

BAD ROADS Officials say roads need certain temperature to be laid and that work can be done only after monsoon is over

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NEW DELHI: With monsoon just a couple of weeks away, Delhi's Public Works Department (PWD) has started temporary repair work on roads transferred to them from the unified Municipal Corporation of Delhi (MCD).

A recent study commissioned by the department had revealed shortcomings in a majority of these roads.

But what could wonder why just temporary repair work. PWD officials said the decision was taken keeping in mind that proper work on these roads will start only after the monsoon as the roads have to be laid at a particular temperature.

"As a temporary measure, we have already started repairing the roads that have been transferred from the unified MCD or

CARRYING FORWARD MCD'S BURDEN

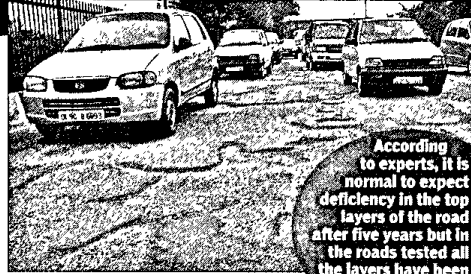
A survey found that most roads are in bad condition

300 km (approximately) out of 745 km handed over from MCD surveyed

Deficiencies found
Heavily cracked sections, deficiency in thickness of the roads, deficiency in bituminous macadam, general specifications of laying the roads not followed, all the layers of the roads are weak and need strengthening

NAME OF SOME OF THE ROADS

Deshbandhu Gupta Road, Patel Road, Pankha Road, New Rohtal Road, DDA office Flood Drain to Dabri Nasirpur Road, Military Road, Punjabi Bagh Junction to Zakhira Roundabout, Najafgarh Road from Raja Garden Junction to Zakhira Roundabout, Road number 63 to Sewa Dham, Najafgarh Dhansa Road



Experts say roads could worsen with rains

₹200 cr Money spent on the 745 km roads by the unified municipal corporation

₹1,000 cr Money required for strengthening and maintaining these roads

else they will spell trouble for Delhi's motorists during the monsoon. Once the rainy season is over, we will start construction work. We have asked for funds from the Delhi government for the same," said a PWD official.

Experts from the Central Road Research Institute (CRR), Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Roorkee and Delhi Technical University (DTU), who had carried out a joint study of the roads, have recommended steps that are need-

ed to be taken for strengthening of the roads.

Experts warn that the condition of city roads is likely to further deteriorate with the monsoon.

"Appropriate road material specifications, right cross slope

and temperature at which the road should be laid have to be followed to ensure longevity. We have made three alternative recommendations as to how these roads should be strengthened," they added.

Apart from not undertaking

specific maintenance at regular intervals that has weakened the various layers, the study has also blamed the growth of traffic for deterioration of the roads.

"The study found that there were a lot of deficiencies in the roads. A road is not just a black surface; there are four distinct layers that make a road. During the investigation, it was found that almost all the roads needed major strengthening. It seems that timely maintenance interventions following various Indian Roads Congress codes were not undertaken to match the growth in traffic, which has resulted in deteriorated road condition," said experts from IIT Roorkee.

Pointing out the deficiencies, they added, "Deficiencies were found in the thickness of the top bituminous layer and there were a lot of cracks of different types."

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India and US join hands to create quality academics

2013 Tata Institute of Social Sciences and two US institutes to set up education academy at Penn to address Indian education needs

Vanita Srivastava

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NEW DELHI: Institutes in India and the US will join hands to create a pool of trained mid-career academicians, so they could be groomed into potential leaders as part of a long-term objective to strengthen the Indian educational structure.

The Penn State's Center for the Study of Higher Education (CSHE), in association with Rutgers University and Tata Institute of Social Sciences (TISS) in Mumbai, will host an Indian Higher Education Academy at Penn State in 2013 to specifically address the needs of Indian higher education and build academic leaders.

This is part of a proposal, for which the three institutions were awarded the Obama-Singh 21st Century Knowledge Initiative Grant, as announced by US Secretary of State Hillary Clinton recently. Robert M Hendrickson, interim director and senior scientist at the Centre For Study of

THE PLAN

- Besides onsite sessions from May 19 to May 23, 2013, at Penn State, six virtual sessions would be scheduled during the 2013-2014 on topics selected by the participants
- As many as 30 heads from the Indian higher education field are expected to participate in the academy.

Higher Education, Penn State University, told HT that besides onsite sessions from May 19 to May 23, 2013, at Penn State, six virtual sessions would be scheduled during the 2013-2014 on topics selected by participants.

As many as 30 heads from the Indian higher education field are expected to participate in the academy. Elaborating further, Prof Hendrickson said, "The academy has been set up to provide foundational knowledge to help academic administrators of higher education institutions

become more effective administrators of academic units. Several higher education leaders and vice-chancellors from India will be present at the Academic Leadership Academy, to be held from June 24 to June 28. They will help put topic areas in an Indian context for the 2013 India Academic Leadership Academy."

Speaking on the matter, he said, "The Academic Leadership Academy was originally developed to address the problem of developing leadership vacuum created by the retirement of 50% academic leaders in the US. With the development of new post secondary institutions in India, there is a growing need for quality academic leadership."

Tata Institute of Social Sciences professor B Venkatesh Kumar, who is the project leader from the Indian side said: "We will identify potential candidates from universities and institutes who are mid-career, and then put them through a process of training and mentoring."

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US regains top spot for fastest supercomp

Washington: An IBM super-computer developed for US government nuclear simulations and to study climate change and the human genome has been recognized as the world's fastest.

The announcement on Monday at the 2012 International Supercomputing Conference in Hamburg, Germany recognized Sequoia, an IBM BlueGene/Q system installed at the Department of Energy's Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory.

The machine delivered 16.32 petaflops — a petaflop equating to a thousand trillion operations — per second. Sequoia is primarily for simulations used to ensure the safety and reliability of US nuclear weapons. It also is used for research into astronomy, human genome science and climate change. Sequoia pips Fujitsu's 'K Computer' installed at the RIKEN Advanced Institute for Computational Science in Kobe, Japan, which dropped to number two at 10.51 petaflops per second.

A new Mira supercomputer which is also part of the IBM BlueGene/Q series at Argonne National Laboratory in Illinois, was third fastest. **AFF**