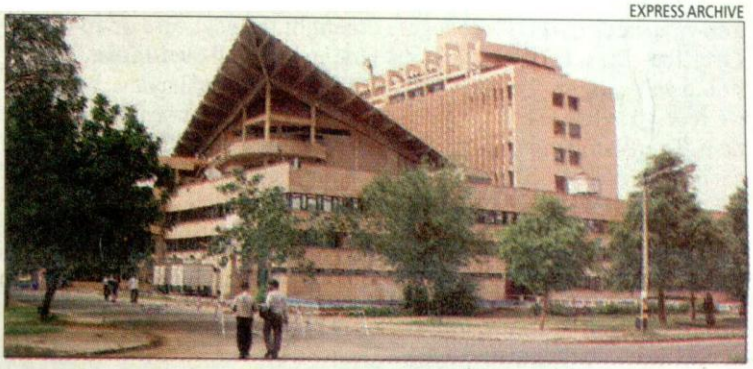
Newspaper Clips

June 18, 2013

Indian Express ND 18.06.2013 P-1 (Express News Line)

EXPRESS ARCHIVE



The Jhajjar campus is being envisaged as IIT-D research wing

Haryana govt gives in principle nod for IIT-D's Jhajjar extension

NAVEED IQBAL
NEW DELHI, JUNE 17

AFTER more than a year of correspondence between the Indian Institute of Technology, Delhi (IIT-D), and the Haryana government, the latter has finally "agreed in principle" to provide land for a second extension campus in Jhajjar.

Registrar of IIT-D Rakesh Kumar told *Newsline* that the proposal to set up a second campus in Haryana "is at an advanced stage" and the institute is likely to get possession of the land "very soon".

IIT-D had been pushing for this second extension at Jhajjar, after obtaining land for the first one in Sonepat. The Jhajjar campus, about 100 acres in area, is being envisaged as IIT's research campus while the one in Sonepat will be used for academic expansion.

According to Kumar, a committee has been appointed to look into the activities planned for the Sonepat campus. "The site will include a science and technology park, a faculty development centre and a "high performance" computing centre," he said.

Former director of IIT-D Surendra Prasad had announced during the institute's Golden Jubilee celebrations in August 2011 that the Haryana government had offered 100 acres of land — free of cost — to IIT-Delhi for a second campus.

In April 2012, a six-member team comprising director of IIT-D R K Shevgaonkar, deputy director M Balakrishnan and Prasad, had visited three sites around Jhajjar and had zeroed in on a site "relatively close to Gurgaon" and next to AIIMS's extension campus.

Shevgaonkar had written to the Haryana government in December 2012 for possession of the Sonepat campus. On March 19, the Haryana government had handed the possession of a 50-acre plot in Sonepat's Rajiv Gandhi Educational City to IIT-D.

IIT had then asked for a second extension campus at Jhajjar to build a research facility, as the current 250-acre campus is not not enough for the research needs of the institute, officials said.

Publication: The Times Of India Delhi;Date: Jun 18, 2013;Section: International;Page: 19;

World's fastest supercomp built

Beijing: China's defence scientists have built the world's fastest supercomputer, capable of performing 33.86 quadrillion operations per second, surpassing the US Titan supercomputer, according to survey results announced on Monday.

The Tianhe-2 has a peak performance speed of 54.9 quadrillion operations per second, according to the National University of Defence Technology, which built the computer.

The computer's predecessor, the Tianhe-1A, was the world's fastest from November 2010 to June 2011, when it was surpassed by Japan's K computer, state-run Xinhua News agency reported.

Tianhe-2, or Milky Way-2, will be deployed at the National Supercomputer Centre in Guangzho, China, by the end of the year, according to TOP500, a project ranking the 500 most powerful computer systems in the world.

MADE IN CHINA

The surprise appearance of Tianhe-2, two years ahead of the expected deployment, marks China's first return to the No 1 position since November 2010, when Tianhe-1A was the top system.

Tianhe-2 has 16,000 nodes, each with two Intel Xeon IvyBridge processors and three Xeon Phi processors for a combined total of 3,120,000 computing cores.

The supercomputer Tianhe-2 is capable of operating as fast as 33.86 petaflops per second. It was ranked on Monday as the world's fastest computing system, according to TOP500.

Titan, a Cray XK7 system installed at the US department of energy's (DOE) Oak Ridge National Laboratory and previously the No 1 system, is now ranked No 2.

According to TOP500 editor Jack Dongarra, who toured the Tianhe-2 development facility in May, the system is noteworthy in a number of aspects. PTI

HT Kolkata

Two scientists from CERN to be honoured by President

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AGARTALA: Two eminent scientists associated with CERN, the prestigious European laboratory for particle physics, would be conferred honorary Doctor of Science (DSC) degree by National Institute of Technology (NIT) Agartala.

CERN director general Rolf-Dieter Heuer and eminent scientist Bikash Sinha of Kolkata, who is also associated with CERN, would be conferred DSC at the fifth convocation ceremony to be held on Friday, NIT registrar Sumanta Chakrabarti told reporters here on Monday.

President Pranab Mukherjee will grace the occasion as chief guest and deliver the convocation speech and confer the honorary doctor of science degree on Heuer and Sinha at the NIT, Chakrabarti said.

The headquarters of CERN is in Switzerland. "The NIT, Agartala, which ranks 10th among the 30 NITs in the country also put forwarded a proposal to CERN for collaborative activities which is yet to be finalised," he said.

The President would inaugurate a 726 mw gas based thermal power project at Palatana, biggest of its kind in the country, near Udaipur town, about 55 km from here on the same day.

HT Chandigarh

62 JEE applicants seek re-evaluation

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NEW DELHI: Four days after the answer sheets of candidates who had taken the Joint Entrance Examination (JEE) 2013 were put on a website, only 62 students have applied for re-evaluation.

Last year, the JEE office had received 258 applications for re-evaluation. But the number of papers were 9 lakh as 4.5 lakh students had appeared in 2012.

"We have got around 62 applications for re-evaluation. The number may be even less as some applications could be faulty. Considering the fact that there were three lakh papers (two for each candidate), this is a very small number," Dr H C Gupta, organising chairman, JEE (Advanced), said.

Last year, it was for the first time that IIT uploaded the corrected optical response sheets of all the candidates on the JEE website to maintain transparency and avoid any errors.

This year the evaluated answer sheets were made available online from June 13 to June 17. The student had to pay ₹500 for each question to be reviewed.

LAST YEAR, THE JEE OFFICE HAD RECEIVED 258 APPLICATIONS FOR RE-EVALUATION

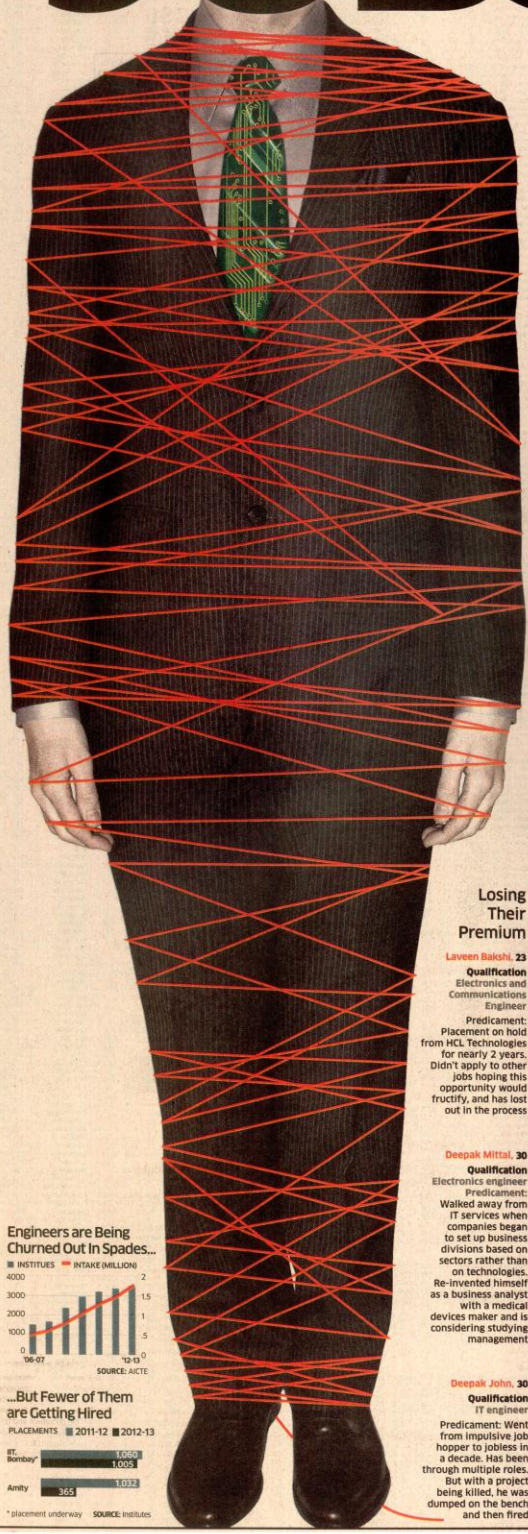
"The initiative of providing solutions and uploading the answer sheets of the aspirants before declaring the results has been a great success. This year we have done double scanning and even used image integration for minimising any error in evaluation," Dr Gupta said.

Compared to last year when IIT had admitted to two questions being incorrect and had given no marks to candidates in both, this year no question has been declared incorrect. "After getting feedback and proper examination, we have simply allowed flexibility in options in two questions, one in paper I (maths) and another in paper 2 (physics)," he added.

Economic Times ND 18.06.2013 P-18

That's how many engineers graduate in India every year. And they have never found it so hard to land a job. Some blame the slack job market, others point to poor quality of colleges and graduates, write **Anumeha Chaturvedi & Rahul Sachitanand**

A Million Engineers, but Where are the JOBS?



Somewhere between a fifth to a third of the million students graduating out of India's engineering colleges run the risk of being unemployed. Others will take jobs well below their technical qualifications in a market where there are few jobs for India's overflowing technical talent pool. Beset by a flood of institutes (offering a varying degree of education) and a shrinking market for their skills, India's engineers are struggling to subsist in an extremely challenging market.

According to multiple estimates, India trains around 1.5 million engineers, which is more than the US and China combined. However, two key industries hiring these engineers -- information technology and manufacturing -- are actually hiring fewer people than before. For example, India's IT industry, a sponge for 50-75% of these engineers will hire 50,000 fewer people this year, according to Nasscom. Manufacturing, too, is facing a similar stasis, say HR consultants and skills evaluation firms.

According to data from AICTE, the regulator for technical education in India, there were 1,511 engineering colleges across India, graduating over 550,000 students back in 2006-07. Fuelled by fast growth, especially in the $110 billion outsourcing market, a raft of new colleges sprung up -- since then, the number of colleges and graduates have doubled.

JOB PROBLEMS...

Jobs have, however, failed to keep pace. "The entire ecosystem has been built around feeding the IT industry," says Kamal Karanth, managing director of Kelly Services, a global HR consultancy. "But, the business model of IT companies has changed...customers are asking for more. The crisis is very real today."

Placement numbers across institutes -- including tier-I colleges such as IIT Bombay -- have mirrored these struggles. In 2012-13, in IIT Bombay, a total of 1,501 students opted to go through the placement process. At the time of writing, only 1,005 had been placed (placements are currently underway in the institute). In 2011-12, 1,060 of the 1,389 students were placed.

Further down the pecking order, at the Amity School of Engineering and Technology, placements are muted. The number of companies visiting is down from 86 last year to 67 in 2013 at the time of writing (placements are currently underway). Batch sizes have reduced drastically at its Noida campus this year, with 365 students placed so far in a batch size of 459, compared to 1,032 being placed in a batch size of 1,160 last year. "Some companies have delayed the joining dates of students who passed out last year and they are still waiting to be placed," says Ajay Rana, director, Amity Technical Placement Centre. "We can expect joining dates of students who passed out this year to be deferred by a minimum of six months."

...TRICKLE DOWN

This muddled equation is now showing signs of social and economic strain across the country. Frustrated engineers are taking jobs for which they are overqualified and, therefore, underpaid. A few exceptions have even turned to crime. According to media reports, Manjunath Reddy, a civil engineer, turned to chain snatching in Thane, a suburb of Mumbai, to support his young family. While he used some money to buy a small flat in peripheral Mumbai, his failure to net a job drove him to crime, he told the police when caught.

Like him, another engineer in Aurangabad turned to car lifting as a route to easy money. "The social aspect of this massive under-employment and unemployment will soon be witnessed," warns Pratik Kumar, HR chief of Wipro and chief executive of its infrastructure engineering unit.

Hiring is slowing down because recruiters are changing their strategy. "An engineering degree is a poor proxy for your education and employment skills," says Manish Sabharwal, chairman of TeamLease, a temp staffing firm. "The world of work is evolving... employers increasingly don't care what you know, they focus on what you can do with that knowledge." While dozens of new institutes have been established in the past six or eight years, he claims that over a third of them are empty and perhaps they are "worth more dead (for the real estate they sit on) than alive."

A global economic slowdown may have only worsened what is already a bad problem, say others such as Amit Bansal, co-founder of Purple Leap, a skills assessment firm, which routinely gauges the capabilities of students across these institutes. "Even without this slowdown, there are a large number of students who won't get a job," he says.

Bansal estimates that, at best, there are 150,000-200,000 jobs generated annually in the Indian economy and far too many engineers attacking this labour pool. What's more, India's technical talent pool is also warped, with almost the same number of engineers as technical graduates from institutes such as ITI. "In developed markets, there is usually one engineer for every ten," says Bansal. This skew is only compounding the woes of engineers in India.

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The Fallen Lot

Recent unexpected midterm increments at Infy will bring some cheer, but the industry is wrestling with a new business model and realises it now needs to hire less ...

In under two years, 23-year-old Laveen Bakshi has experienced a wide range of emotions in his stillborn career in information technology. For the electronics and communications engineer from The Maharaja Suratmal Institute of Technology, Delhi, the initial thrill of getting an offer letter from HCL Technologies, India's number four software exporter, has now given way to dejection, desperation and anger after a near two-year wait for a joining date.

At least 6,000 others are in the middle of such frustrating waits to join HCL and other IT companies. Once a magnet for skilled manpower, especially engineers, IT companies are now hiring less -- the sector hired 200,000 people last year, 50,000 less than the previous 12 months, according to industry body Nasscom.

A global slowdown and a slow-to-change local industry have crimped hiring, and with it, the aspirational tag long enjoyed by this sector. "A feeling of disgust has replaced our previous feeling of pride," says Bakshi. Having waited for months for a joining date, he has also discovered that hiring plans for the 2013 batch are afoot; and as a graduate from the previous year, he's out in the cold. HCL Technologies didn't make its executives available for an interview, despite repeated requests.

Over the past two decades, the IT industry has been billed as an employer of choice, on account of handsome salary packages, perks such as stock options and the opportunity to work at client sites worldwide. The sector has also been a marker on other HR fronts: it has led in terms of training its employees to be industry-ready (Infosys invests Rs 2.5 lakh and 16 weeks in classroom sessions per employee), scientifically planned career development programmes and was the most aggressive user of stock options to create employee wealth.

Infosys, for example, has distributed over Rs 50,000 crore in ESOPs over the past 15 years. "Last decade, 25% of all jobs created in India were in IT and BPO," says Pramod Bhasin, non-executive vice-chairman of BPO firm Genpact and past chairman of Nasscom. However, the charm has now begun to fade.

LOSING NUMBERS

Deepak Mittal spent seven years working with outsourcing companies such as L&T Infotech, Cognizant and Capgemini before moving to a medical devices maker as a business analyst. "In this time, the IT industry has gone from focusing on technologies to focusing on verticals," he says.

While they managed to focus on clients in sectors such as financial services or manufacturing, they did so at a cost -- employees who had specific technical skills such as Mittal, in enterprise resource planning, now found themselves sidelined. "Sales folk now focused on broad contracts with clients and not employee skills...if your skill wasn't required for a big contract, you found yourself out in the cold," he claims.

Companies that were previously brushed aside by engineers in the quest for a coveted IT job are clearly sensing this shift. "IT is no longer the most attractive sector for jobs," says Raja Radhakrishnan, head-HR for ABB India, a power gear maker. As the interest in IT wanes, companies such as ABB are discovering that top candidates are increasingly opting for careers in their chosen specialty (electrical and electronic engineering with ABB), rather than punting on a role in an IT company.

Another HR head, Jacob Jacob of Apollo Hospitals, says healthcare may replace IT as the hiring sunrise industry over the next five to seven years. "There is a huge demand for healthcare across the country and the impact is more immediate and impactful if you work in this sector," he says.

Making such a shift won't be easy for the large number of code writers in the IT industry. "It is easier for sales and management executives to switch between sectors," says Anish Singh, CEO of Techbridge Networks, a recruitment solutions provider in Bangalore. "But for the hundreds of thousands of programmers who constitute the core of the IT sector, there is very little choice."

CHANGING PROFILE

This decline in their careers is dragging down their social standing too. For example, marriage bureaus and websites are reporting decreased interest in profiles of IT workers, especially those with shaky visa statuses or residency permits stuck in red tape. "There has been a significant decrease in the premium accorded to profiles of NRIs and onsite workers in the IT sector," says Muragavel Janakiraman, CEO of Bharatmatrimony.com, a popular marriage portal. Holding an IT job is increasingly viewed with the same lens as jobs in other organised sectors, he adds.

Lalitha Iyer is now facing up to some of these changes. Her son Vishnu, 30, has gone from matrimonial goldmine to pariah in 18 months. In early-2011, he went to Germany on an onsite contract. Before his departure, she swatted away piles of potential matches. Now, he's back from his stint, had his H-1B visa application rejected for a US trip. His salary hike too is frozen. "We're not getting any younger to keep supporting him emotionally," Iyer says in her small house in North Bangalore.

HR consultants too are sensing this shift. "The freshness associated with an IT sector job has waned," says Ajit Isaac, founder of Ikya Human Capital Solutions in Bangalore. "Altered tax norms have made ESOPs less attractive and increased disposable incomes have made overseas trips personally more affordable."

As salaries are also slow to grow (see chart), the IT industry's lucre only fades further. "Those days of IT-BPO industry hiring everybody and anybody in college are over," admits Bhasin. As the industry tightens its belt and employment opportunities decline, the rush to net an IT job has slowed.

However, not everyone thinks that this holds true. "Which other industry hires freshers for Rs 2.5-3 lakh per year," asks R Elango, HR chief for MphasiS, a HP-owned outsourcer. "We have become a lot more discerning with our hiring...we yet get 300,000-500,000 unsolicited CVs a year." The industry is no longer a mass hirer of technical talent -- masses of ordinary engineers won't be hired. "The demand and quality equations have irrevocably changed," he says.

NEW NORMAL

This is the IT sector's third stumble in two decades, each of which has caused significant job losses. First was the slowdown from the dotcom meltdown in 2001, then the Lehman-led dive in 2008, and now the battering from a persistent global slowdown. This time, the sector is not just re-inventing itself, it is reshaping into a leaner industry. Rather than streets lined with gold, techies have discovered a more brutal reality.

Deepak John, 30, switched jobs five times in the past decade in the quest for better pay and perks. Now, some of the charm of the chase is wearing thin. He has rotated through stints in sales and marketing besides being a pure coder. Today, few options are at hand for this electrical engineer, who thought he had it all. "I haven't been abroad in 18 months and two projects have been cancelled," he says.

The new normal that current and future IT job holders is taking many forms. For example, enrolments at institutes such as NIIT, which supply a raft of technology manpower to companies, are feeling the full force of this rethink. NIIT's flagship IT course, the three-year GNIIT, which enrolled about 70,000 students a year till 2010, now has 50,000 students. "In the next three years, our non-IT revenue will be 30% of the total -- double of what it is today," says Vijay K Thadani, CEO of NIIT.

Nitin Pujari, head of department, computer sciences, PES Institute of Technology, says "during the dotcom-led slowdown, students panicked because everyone wanted to jump into IT. This is no longer the case. Students are smarter and more aggressive...other industries, government service and entrepreneurship are all strong alternatives."

Prashasthi Prabhakar, a fourth semester computer sciences student, has seen her interest in joining the struggling outsourcing bandwagon dim. Instead of a seemingly cushy job with an outsourcer, she wants to try the UPSC (Union Public Service Commission) exam, a gateway to a government job. "I'd rather use my engineering skills to improve public service delivery," she says.

Mittal the engineer with the medical devices firm thinks that networking -- both online and offline -- has also put a spanner in the works. "When I started in IT, you were just happy to land a job," he explains. "However, now the industry has grown and people know its benefits and ills in equal measure." People with a job offer in the tech sector now do their own reference checks and aren't averse to walking away from a company -- or the entire industry -- if they feel that its aspirational value is headed south.

All this networking, however, came to naught for 23-year-old Dev Chatterjee, who first found himself benched and three months later fired from his job with a mid-sized software exporter. After many attempts, he found a job as a part-time Java developer with a startup real estate portal. Several people had vetted his previous employment choice, but his career unravelled when a client killed an outsourcing deal. "Now, I will never recommend this sector to anyone," he says.

In these tough times, it's unlikely he'll get too much sympathy. "Employees must realise that jobs will get automated and they have to stay ahead of the curve. The calibre of people that the industry is looking at is going up," says former Genpact chief Bhasin. "Companies don't need that many trained engineers to run an IT help desk... work will not go away, but fewer people will be needed."

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With Inputs from Shelley Singh

Losing Their Premium

Laveen Bakshi, 23
Qualification
Electronics and Communications Engineer
Predicament:
Placement on hold from HCL Technologies for nearly 2 years. Didn't apply to other jobs hoping this opportunity would fructify, and has lost out in the process

Deepak Mittal, 30
Qualification
Electronics engineer
Predicament:
Walked away from IT services when companies began to set up business divisions based on sectors rather than on technologies. Re-invented himself as a business analyst with a medical devices maker and is considering studying management

Deepak John, 30
Qualification
IT engineer
Predicament:
Went from impulsive job hopper to jobless in a decade. Has been through multiple roles. But with a project being killed, he was dumped on the bench and then fired

Tribune ND 18.06.2013 P-12

Making higher education industry relevant

R. S. GREWAL

THERE is a growing need in India for skilled manpower to narrow the gap between demand and supply of skills. The Centre has set a target of 500 million skilled workers by the year 2022. Consequently, there has been tremendous pressure on increasing the capacity and capability of institutions engaged in running skill development programmes.

Simultaneously, a need has been felt to increase the Gross Enrolment Ratio (GER) for higher education in the country. About five years ago, GER in India was around 13 per cent and the authorities claim that it has now risen to 18 per cent. The target is to achieve a GER of 30 per cent by the year 2020. Given the Indian obsession with degrees, higher education and skill development cannot be totally separated and these have to move hand in hand to meet the growing demand of the industry.

To make higher education industry relevant, students need to be provided avenues and options to switch from skill development programmes to higher education and vice versa. And only a select few, those possessing an aptitude for research, should branch out towards research activities. It implies that the higher education sector has to chart out a course that provides multiple options to students at different stages.

India inherited its higher education system from the colonial era that had altogether a different objective. Policy debates were initiated after Independence to change the paradigm but the industry dominated by the "Licence Raj" was unable to force the hand of the bureaucracy in the education sector. At that time, the sector was limited by its size and it would not have been that difficult to bring about a change. But the industry was content with the type of students graduating from universities and our bureaucracy did not show the needed foresight.

However, the liberalisation of economy in the 1990s changed the needs of the industry that started demanding problem solvers and knowledge creators. Our universities were not prepared to meet that challenge. The problem got compounded with a large number of young aspirants who wanted to pursue higher education. The preference of parents for white-collar jobs put further strain on the higher education sector. Both the Central and state governments were unable to meet the demand and, thus, private players made an entry into the higher education sector.

Today almost 90 per cent of management education, 80 per cent of engineering and 68 per cent of medical institutions are in the private sector. Its size can be gauged from the fact that the number of universities in India has risen from 17 at the time of Independence to around 670 till date. Similarly, the number of colleges has grown from 496 in 1947 to more than 40,000 now. This exponential expansion coupled with a slow pace of reforms has raised concerns about unemployable degree holders being produced by higher educational institutions. Interestingly, the worst form of sledging has been inflicted on private universities. But in the present vitiated environment, we have to ask if the private universities have really been as awful as these are made out to be?

Ironically, a distinct pattern is emerging in the debate relating to higher education in the country, where the private sector is being painted as the main villain. We need to pause and think if that is indeed the case. The matter is serious both for the private sector in particular and the higher education sector as a whole. If the private sector, with such a large presence, cannot be trusted, the fallout might hurt it but it will not spare the public sector either. A scorched-earth policy invariably engulfs all! The debate and the consequential efforts need to be geared towards enhancing the quality of higher education both in public and private universities and other higher educational institutions.

The higher education sector has to chart out a course that provides multiple options to students at different stages. — Thinkstockphotos

For higher education to improve the measures adopted should include both the ground realities and the enlightened view of education. It is futile to accuse educational institutions merely based on their origin. All the stakeholders carry different perceptions of the two sectors based on their experiences, ethos, expectations and social milieu. A debate throws up differences but it also opens the doors for opportunities to harmonise and iron out the differences. It does not entitle the opponents to paint all private universities and institutions with the same brush. The mere fact that industry has not subscribed to that trend and has been recruiting students from private institutions in large numbers reinforces that argument.

On the other hand, the general public, including bureaucrats and politicians who are more than keen to get their wards educated in private schools, change tack when it comes to higher education and prefer government-run institutions. This should make the private sector sit up and introspect. There is a need to institute measures to change this social perception. And that can come about only with an honest approach.

That brings us to the twin issues of autonomy and accountability. Granting autonomy to higher educational institutions is a must to enable them to acquire their own ethos, character and operational freedom. Is our assumption that autonomy begets honesty really tenable? Perhaps the reverse is true, and we could say that honesty strengthens the claims to autonomy. Dishonest autonomy can cause great harm to the higher education sector and, consequently, to the future generations and national strength. Therefore, there is a need for checks and balances to ensure 'chaotic autonomy' does not take the centre stage merely to satisfy the rhetoric.

No doubt the autonomy goes hand in hand with accountability, but any questioning of accountability has to be tempered with in consonance with prevailing environment. Applying rules and laws blindly could be counterproductive. The rule of law must prevail impartially and realistically, irrespective of the origin of the institution, and not submit to the ideologies or biases of certain people. In a socialistic environment it is difficult to follow this dictum but we must remember that hard cases make bad law, and bad law extolled as guardian of public good can spell disaster. We cannot afford to try and create a world that has oracles of virtue and whose word means immediate execution with extreme prejudice.

The country needs honest people to run its higher education sector. Different stakeholders need to temper their self-interests to ensure common good. India needs a renaissance of mutual trust that is supported by self-regulation. Disagreeing with someone can throw up better solutions, but disagreement based on mistrust sows the seeds of conflict. The Indian higher education sector would do well to keep that in mind and remove the 'caste system' of public versus private that has been created.

The writer is a former Vice-Chancellor, Chitkara University, Himachal Pradesh

Navbharat Times ND 18.06.2013 P-13

बदलेगी तस्वीर

आईआईएम-अहमदाबाद, बंगलुरु और कलकत्ता ने अभी तक 294 विमिन स्टूडेंट्स को कंफर्म किया

IIM में नजर आने लगी विमिन स्टूडेंट पावर

[श्रीराधा डी बसु & देविना सेनगुप्ता *मुंबई & बंगलुरु*]

इस साल आईआईएम कैंपस में विमिन पावर बढ़ने के संकेत है। इंस्टीट्यूट्स ने ज्यादा विमिन कैंडिडेट्स को एडमिशन देने के लिए जो पहल की थीं उसके नतीजे दिखने लगे हैं। पांच सबसे पुराने आईआईएम कलकत्ता, अहमदाबाद, बंगलुरु, लखनऊ और इंदौर के आंकड़ों को देखने से यह पता चलता है कि 2013-15 बैच में विमिन स्टूडेंट्स की संख्या में अच्छी बढ़ोतरी हुई है। आईआईएम अहमदाबाद इसमें अपवाद है। यहां 80 विमिन स्टूडेंट्स का एडमिशन हुआ है, जबकि बाकी चारों इंस्टीट्यूट में 100 से ज्यादा महिलाओं ने एडमिशन लिया है।

बायोकॉन की चेयरमैन और मैनेजिंग डायरेक्टर किरण मजूमदार शॉ ने कहा, 'आईआईएम में ज्यादा से ज्यादा महिलाओं को एडमिशन देने से निश्चित तौर पर जेंडर डायवर्सिटी पर इसका बेहतर असर होगा। इससे कॉरपोरेट इंडिया में लीडरशिप रोल के लिए ज्यादा से ज्यादा महिलाएं तैयार हो सकेंगी। मेरा मानना है कि बिजनेस स्कूल को महिला कैंडिडेट के लिए कुछ तय नंबर अलग रखना चाहिए।'

तीनों आईआईएम में टोटल बैच साइज इस साल बढ़कर 1247 हो गया है जो पहले 1220 था

टॉप थ्री आईआईएम अहमदाबाद, बंगलुरु और कलकत्ता में अभी तक 294 विमिन स्टूडेंट्स को कंफर्म किया गया है। इससे पहले 2012-14 बैच में इनकी संख्या सिर्फ 215 थी। तीनों आईआईएम में टोटल बैच साइज इस साल बढ़कर 1247 हो गया है जो पहले 1220 था। इसका मतलब है कि इस साल के बैच में विमिन स्टूडेंट्स की संख्या 23.6 फीसदी है जो 2012-14 बैच में 17.6 फीसदी थी। आईआईएम के फ्लैगशिप पीजीपी प्रोग्राम अभी चल रहे हैं इसलिए टॉप तीन आईआईएम इंस्टीट्यूट्स में विमिन स्टूडेंट्स की सही संख्या के लिए 17 जून 2013 तक इंतजार करना पड़ेगा। वहीं, दूसरे इंस्टीट्यूट के लिए जून अंत से लेकर जुलाई की शुरुआत तक इंतजार करना पड़ेगा। लेकिन अभी तक मिले आंकड़ों से यह साफ हो गया है कि इस साल आईआईएम में विमिन कैंडिडेट की संख्या पिछले साल से ज्यादा होगी। विमिन स्टूडेंट्स के मामले में आईआईएम कलकत्ता अभी तक दूसरे इंस्टीट्यूट से पीछे छूट रहा था लेकिन इस बार वह भी दूसरे इंस्टीट्यूट की तरह आगे आया है। इस साल कोलकाता में विमिन स्टूडेंट्स की संख्या 107 यानी 23 फीसदी है जो पहले 11 फीसदी (51) थी।