

# Before key meet, IIT head questions new exam plan

**NEW TWIST** IIT-Guwahati's director says Sibal's compromise formula could burden students; IITs to meet today

ht **EXCLUSIVE**

**Charu Sudan Kasturi**  
■ charu.kasturi@hindustantimes.com

**NEW DELHI:** Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Guwahati director Gautam Barua has questioned a compromise proposal on IIT admission reforms ahead of a key meet aimed at hammering out a consensus between the government and protesting faculty.

In an email to the IIT-Guwahati faculty on Monday, Barua argued that the new proposal to make eligible students appear for two entrance tests for the IITs will "make life difficult for students by making them sit for one more exam" than necessary.

Barua's email raises questions over whether a hastily called meeting of the IIT Council on Wednesday will end a months-long tussle between HRD minister Kapil Sibal and IIT faculty over admissions. It also represents the latest twist to a battle that has left thousands of students confused about admissions in 2013, and driven a deep wedge between teachers and Sibal, who may not attend the council meet to avoid criticism that he has hurt the autonomy of the IITs.

Under the compromise proposal that Sibal wants the Council to agree on, the Board percentile scores will be used to screen top 20% students from each Board. These students will then have to clear a mains test to be eligible for an advanced test for selection into the IITs.

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### THE IIT TUSSLE

#### Present admission system

Eligibility: 60 % in Boards;  
Then clear IIT-JEE

#### Sibal's original plan

Board percentile scores (40 % weightage), a mains test (30%) and an advanced test (30%)

#### Criticism from faculty

Opposed to using Board scores in final selection

#### The compromise plan

Screen top 20% students in each Board; conduct mains test to shortlist 50,000 students for advanced test

#### Barua's concerns

Students unnecessarily need to appear for 2 tests.

rent format, with the eligibility bar raised from 60% in the Board exam to a top 20 percentile score. Aspirants then won't need to appear for two tests.

He is the first director to question the latest proposal, which was accepted by other directors last Saturday. Barua did not attend that meeting, and was not reachable for comment on Tuesday.

The IIT Guwahati director has been one of the staunchest supporters of Sibal's original proposal to weigh Board percentile scores in selecting students to the IITs. But after the senates of IIT Kanpur and IIT Delhi resolved to conduct their own admission tests in protest against the move to use Board performances, Sibal agreed to the compromise plan.

## IIT-KHARAGPUR PUSHES FOR 30% CUT-OFF, STATUS QUO FOR NOW

**Vanita Srivastava**  
■ vanita.srivastava@hindustantimes.com

**NEW DELHI:** Ahead of the IIT council meet on June 27, the extended executive committee of the IIT-Kharagpur Teacher's Association met on Monday and passed a resolution on several points relating to the new JEE pattern.

The four-point resolution stated that the cut-off percentile for screening should be more than 30%, and recommended against bringing about any change in 2013. It also maintained that even the main exam test should be set by IITs — not just the advanced one. According to sources, it was unanimously decided that a requisition senate meet should be called to discuss the status of IIT-JEE.

Meanwhile, the government has all its hopes pinned on the IIT council meet. On the morning of June 27, before it starts, the council will meet the IIT Federation for deliberating with all the members. The senates of IIT-Kanpur and IIT-Delhi have already decided on going for separate examinations.

In another development, five professors of IIT-Kanpur — including its director — met HRD minister Kapil Sibal in Lucknow on Tuesday. The nearly one-hour meet concluded on a positive note. "We are hopeful that something meaningful will emerge. We put all our concerns... and he listened," a professor said.

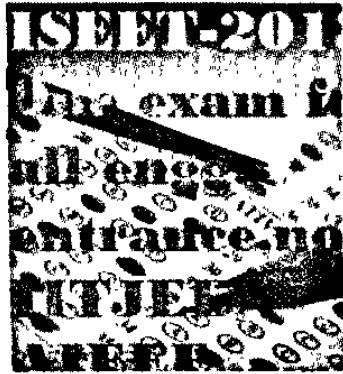
# Crucial meet on single test today

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■  
NEW DELHI

All eyes are now on the crucial meet between HRD Minister Kapil Sibal and the Council of IITs on Wednesday, called to resolve the controversy related to the common entrance test for Centrally-funded engineering institutions.

Sibal will chair the meeting of the highest decision-making body of these elite engineering institutes comprising IIT Directors and heads of other educational bodies like IITs, NITs and IIITs to deliberate on a resolution already adopted by the IIT Joint Admission Board (JAB) last Saturday.

The new format has stressed that admission to the IITs be based only on rank achieved in the advance test "subject to the condition that selected candidates are in the top 20 percentile of successful candidates of their Boards". As per the compromise formula, JAB has also sought a suitable time gap between the main and the advanced tests so that the results of mains are available before the advanced and only a certain fixed number in the mains could appear in the



advance test.

The resolution was adopted by the JAB after discussing a compromise formula which was floated by the HRD Ministry to end the controversy. IIT-Kanpur and IIT-Delhi have already rejected the earlier re-jigged two-tier format on the ground that the test was "academically unsound and procedurally untenable".

Further, the new format has to cross the hurdle of the Senates of all the seven IITs, as Senates comprises of the most important body as far as academic matters of the institutes is concerned.

It could further take a stand on the issues raised in certain quarters that the Council does not have legal

competence to decide on the admission standards in the IIT system.

According to sources, the IIT Council could also consider the feasibility of holding

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common counselling for all Centrally-Funded Technical Institutions (CFTIs).

The IIT alumni in the meantime demanded that the existing format for admission to the IITs should be kept unchanged till 2014 in the interest of the IITs and in the larger interest of students.

"IITs' senates, alumni, Government and other stakeholders need to engage in serious discussions to evolve a new test to genuinely address the concerns raised by HRD Minister Kapil Sibal about reducing stress on students appearing in multiple tests," the IIT alumni said in a statement on Tuesday.

It also raised questions about the legal mandate of the

IIT Council in deciding the structure of the Council, saying deciding about exam matters "rests with IITs' senates only" and any deviation will be strongly protested.

Members of IIT faculty federation, on the other hand, felt that the comprise formula being suggested should be fine-tuned as there are still several shortcomings that need to be addressed.

The deemed-to-be universities on Monday already gave its in-principle approval to the new format to offer seats to engineering aspirants for respective institutes.

The Government had on May 28 announced the new test from 2013, under which aspiring candidates for IITs and other Central institutes such as NITs and IIITs will have to take tests under a new format of common entrance test which will also take the plus two Board results into consideration.

## IT-G director slams govt's compromise plan

27 Jun 2012, Hindustan Times (Chandigarh)

NEW DELHI: IIT-Guwahati director Gautam Barua has slammed the Centre's compromise proposal on admission reforms, saying it would make life difficult for students by making them sit for "one more exam".

NEW DELHI: Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Guwahati director Gautam Barua has questioned a compromise proposal on IIT admission reforms ahead of a key meet aimed at hammering out a consensus between the government and protesting faculty.

In an email to the IIT-Guwahati faculty on Monday, Barua argued that the new proposal to make eligible students appear for two entrance tests for the IITs will "make life difficult for students by making them sit for one more exam" than necessary.

Barua's email raises questions over whether a hastily called meeting of the IIT Council on Wednesday will end a monthslong tussle between HRD minister Kapil Sibal and IIT faculty over admissions. It also represents the latest twist to a battle that has left thousands of students confused about admissions in 2013, and driven a deep wedge between teachers and Sibal, who may not attend the council meet to avoid criticism that he has hurt the autonomy of the IITs.

Under the compromise proposal that Sibal wants the Council to agree on, the Board percentile scores will be used to screen top 20% students from each Board. These students will then have to clear a mains test to be eligible for an advanced test for selection into the IITs.

Barua is arguing that the IITs should just conduct the Joint Entrance Examination in its current format, with the eligibility bar raised from 60% in the Board exam to a top 20 percentile score. Aspirants then won't need to appear for two tests.

He is the first director to question the latest proposal, which was accepted by other directors last Saturday. Barua did not attend that meeting, and was not reachable for comment on Tuesday.

The IIT Guwahati director has been one of the staunchest supporters of Sibal's original proposal to weigh Board percentile scores in selecting students to the IITs. But after the senates of IIT Kanpur and IIT Delhi resolved to conduct their own admission tests in protest against the move to use Board performances, Sibal agreed to the compromise plan.

# Govt-IITs standoff may end today

**ADITI TANDON**  
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

**NEW DELHI, JUNE 26**

Standoff between the government and IITs over the structure of the proposed common engineering entrance test (CET) from 2013 is expected to end tomorrow, with the IIT Council to take a final view at its special meeting.

HRD Minister Kapil Sibal, who chairs the council, told The Tribune today that the school board marks of Class XII would count in IIT admissions from 2013, though not in the manner the IIT Council

had approved under the proposed CET on May 28.

The Minister said he was hopeful of ending the confusion over CET tomorrow when the council takes a final decision on its structure. IIT senates had objected to the CET approved by the council on May 28 under which school board marks were to be incorporated in the determination of the IIT admission merit list. Now, school marks will be considered for admission eligibility.

At the heart of the issue is the manner in which marks of school-leaving exams (Class XII) will be counted

in the results of CET, which will have two parts - main and advanced, the latter to be conducted exclusively for admission to IITs.

For students, there is no cause for worry except that they must do better at school and be among the top 20 per cent in the Class XII results of their respective boards in 2013 to be eligible for admission to IITs.

The new formula will be simple - students will appear for the CBSE-conducted JEE main (which will look like the current AIEEE) at a fixed date in 2013. After four to six weeks (period to be decided

by IIT Council tomorrow), IITs will conduct JEE advanced for admission to their system. Only the top 1.5 lakh scorers of JEE main will get to take JEE advanced.

"Anyone could get 60 per cent marks in Class XII. But when you are talking top 20 per cent in each board, you are looking at around 87 per cent marks. So students have to take school exams seriously," Sibal said.

The IIT faculty said it was not possible to factor school marks in rankings because some boards award marks more generously than the others.

**Business Line ND 27/06/2012**

P-14

## Sibal to meet IIT directors today

*New Delhi, June 26*

**T**he HRD Minister, Mr Kapil Sibal, will meet IIT directors on Wednesday to resolve the common entrance exam row as the Government proposal is being resisted by some of the IITs. Mr Sibal will chair the meeting of the IIT council, the highest decision making body of these elite institutes comprising IIT directors and heads of other educational bodies, deliberating on a resolution adopted by the IIT Joint Admission Board (JAB) which met here last Saturday. The resolution was adopted by the JAB after discussing a compromise formula which was supposedly floated by the HRD Ministry to end the current impasse. - **PTI**

**Business Standard, ND**  
**27/06/2012**  
P-10

## **IIT alumni appeal for status quo on JEE till 2014**

**BS REPORTER ■ Mumbai**

The Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) alumni on Tuesday appealed to the IIT council to maintain a status quo on the existing joint entrance examination till 2014. "It is heartening to know that IIT council is scheduled to meet on 27 June to discuss the way ahead on the issue of proposed common entrance test. IIT alumni appeal to them to defer any change in the existing JEE and maintain status quo until 2014 in the interest of IITs, lakhs of aspirants and the nation," said Somnath Bharati, Secretary, IIT Delhi Alumni Association. The statement also said that since IIT council does not have the legal mandate to decide the structure and style of the admission process to IITs and it rests only with the IITs' senates, any deviation thereof will be strongly protested.

**Asian Age ND**  
**27/06/2012 P-4**

## **IIT COUNCIL TO DISCUSS COMMON ENTRANCE TODAY**

**AGE CORRESPONDENT**  
**NEW DELHI, JUNE 26**

The controversial "one-nation one-examination" decision of the HRD ministry will be put to the test on Wednesday at the emergency session of IIT Council. Union human resources development minister Kapil Sibal is scheduled to meet IIT directors on Wednesday to resolve the row.

The IIT council, the highest decision making body of these institutes, is expected to deliberate on a resolution adopted by the IIT Joint Admission Board (JAB) which met here last Saturday. The resolution was adopted by the JAB after discussing a compromise formula.

**IIT entrance exam row**  
NEW DELHI, 26 JUNE: HRD minister Kapil Sibal will meet IIT directors tomorrow to resolve the common entrance exam row as the government proposal is being resisted by some of the IITs. Mr Sibal will chair the meeting of the IIT council, the highest decision making body of these elite institutes comprising IIT directors and heads of other educational bodies, deliberating on a resolution adopted by the IIT Joint Admission Board (JAB) which met here last Saturday. **pti**

## **Sibal to meet IIT directors today**

**New Delhi:** Human resource development minister Kapil Sibal will meet directors of the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) on Wednesday to resolve the common entrance exam row as the government proposal is being resisted by some of the IITs.

Sibal will chair the meeting of the IIT council, the highest decision making body of these elite institutes comprising IIT directors and heads of other educational bodies, deliberating on a resolution adopted by the IIT joint admission board, which met last Saturday. **PTI**

## Sibal to meet IIT directors today to end exam row

PBD BUREAU/PTI

NEW DELHI, JUNE 26



**H R D Minister Kapil Sibal will meet IIT directors tomorrow to resolve the**

common entrance exam row as the government proposal is being resisted by some of the IITs.

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The resolution was adopted by the JAB after discussing a compromise formula which was supposedly floated by the HRD Ministry to end the current impasse.

IIT-Delhi and IIT-Kanpur had rejected the proposed format on the ground that the test was "academically unsound and procedurally untenable".

As per the compromise formula, JAB has sought a suitable time gap between the main and the advanced tests so that the results of mains are available before the advanced and only the top 1,50,000 candidates (including all categories) in the mains appear in the advance test.

The JAB resolution has also stressed that admission to the IITs be based only on rank achieved in the advance test "subject to the condition that selected candidates are in the top 20 percentile of successful candidates of their Boards".

The Govt had on May 28 announced the new test from 2013, under which aspiring candidates for IITs and other central institutes such as NITs and IIITs will have to take tests under a new format of common entrance test which will also take the plus two board results into consideration.

## Now, Sibal Knows Why IIT is a Hard Nut to Crack

URMI A GOSWAMI  
NEW DELHI

HRD minister and IIT Council chairman Kapil Sibal is caught in a tight spot. If the government thought that reworking its "one nation, one examination" proposal to accommodate the concerns of protesting IIT faculty would resolve the imbroglio, then it is in for a surprise.

Now, some of the IIT directors are questioning the need to abandon the 2012 IIT-JEE if the proposal suggested by the Joint Admission Board (JAB), at its meeting on Saturday, is to be adopted. As per this proposal, only those students who score in the top 20 percentile of each board will be eligible to apply to the IITs, and admission will be on the basis of the JEE Advanced examination. The special meeting of the IIT Council, to be held on Wednesday, will discuss this proposal. In the formulation agreed to on May 28, the normalised class XII results and the JEE Main, in a 50:50 ratio, are to be used for shortlisting students. Sources said the JAB proposal gave no weightage to the Class XII board results. Since it suggests a system of shortlisting students by introducing an eligibility criteria — only those in the top 20 percentile can apply — the JEE Main is rendered useless.

Using the percentile approach some 1.5 lakh students will be shortlisted. Some IIT directors are questioning the need for JEE Main and even the need to migrate to a new system for admissions in 2013. A section is questioning the efficacy of making students appear for a three-hour exam, if it has little value in determining eligibility. Instead, this section is suggesting that the institutes should be allowed to conduct the JEE in the same pattern as it has done in 2012, with two changes. First, the eligibility for appearing in the IIT examination be changed from the current practice of 60% marks in the boards to a percentile rank. JAB will decide the cut-off rank after detailed examination. Second, counselling and seat allotment be held jointly with the National Institutes of Technology. This section acknowledges the need for change, but in the face of uncertainty, it suggests that JAB should begin the discussion on the post-2013 plans. This change could be set in motion from 2014. Meanwhile, sources indicated deep unease over the proposal to allow only those students who rank in the top 20 percentile of each board to be considered for admission to IITs.

## Kapil Sibal to meet IIT directors today

**NEW DELHI:** Union Human Resources Development Minister Kapil Sibal will chair the IIT Council meeting on Wednesday to end the impasse over the common entrance test.

The meet will deliberate on a resolution adopted by the IIT Joint Admission Board (JAB), which met here on last Saturday. The meeting could also consider the feasibility of holding common counselling for all Centrally Funded Technical Institutions (CFTIs).

It could further take a stand on contentious issues like the Council's legal competence to decide on admission standards in the IITs, sources in the government said.

In an attempt to end the current standoff, the resolution was adopted by Joint Admission Board after discussing a compromise formula supposedly floated by the HRD Ministry.

However, IIT-Delhi and IIT-Kanpur have rejected the proposed format, contending that the test was "academically unsound and procedurally untenable."

As per the compromise formula, Joint Admission Board has sought a suitable time gap between the main and the advanced tests. It was also advised the only the top 1,50,000 candidates (including all categories) in the mains, be allowed to appear in the advance test.

The Joint Admission Board resolution has also stressed that admission to the IITs be based only on rank achieved in the advance test "subject to the condition that selected candidates are in the top 20 percentile of successful candidates of their Boards."

The IIT alumni appealed to the council to defer any change in the existing Joint Entrance Examination and maintain status quo until 2014 in the interest of IITs and students.

Somnath Bharti, Secretary, IIT Delhi Alumni Association, in a statement said all stakeholders should discuss the issue in detail.

He also said the IIT council does not have the legal mandate to decide the structure and style of the admission process to IITs and it rests with IITs' senate.

**DH News Service.**

आईआईटी एकल प्रवेश परीक्षा प्रस्ताव के विरोध का मामला

# आईआईटी निदेशकों से आज बात करेंगे सिब्बल

नई दिल्ली (एजेसियां)। एकल प्रवेश परीक्षा के विवाद को सुलझाने के लिए मानव संसाधन विकास मंत्री कपिल सिब्बल कल आईआईटी संस्थानों के निदेशकों से मिलेंगे। कुछ आईआईटी सरकार के एकल परीक्षा के प्रस्ताव का विरोध कर रही हैं। उधर सरकार ने आईआईटी के विरोध के मद्देनजर बीच का फार्मूला निकालने के लिए कल आईआईटी काउंसिल की बैठक बुलाई है।

भारतीय प्रौद्योगिकी संस्थानों की निर्णय लेने वाली सर्वोच्च संस्था आईआईटी परिषद की बैठक सिब्बल की अध्यक्षता में होगी। परिषद में आईआईटी निदेशक और अन्य उच्च शिक्षण संस्थानों के प्रमुख शामिल हैं। इस बैठक में आईआईटी संयुक्त प्रवेश बोर्ड द्वारा पारित प्रस्ताव पर चर्चा की जाएगी जिसकी बैठक गत शनिवार को यहां हुई थी। संयुक्त प्रवेश बोर्ड (जेएबी) ने एक समझौते वाले



▶ आईआईटी दिल्ली और आईआईटी कानपुर सरकार के प्रस्ताव को कर चुके हैं खारिज

▶ बैठक में अन्य उच्च शिक्षण संस्थानों के प्रमुख भी भाग लेंगे

फार्मूले पर प्रस्ताव पारित किया।

आईआईटी दिल्ली और आईआईटी कानपुर सरकार के प्रस्ताव को खारिज कर चुकी हैं। फार्मूले के तहत जेएबी ने मुख्य और एडवांस परीक्षाओं के बीच उचित अंतराल की बात कही है ताकि एडवांस परीक्षा से पहले मुख्य परीक्षा का परिणाम मौजूद हो और मुख्य परीक्षा में सभी श्रेणियों के शीर्ष डेढ़ लाख

उम्मीदवारों को एडवांस परीक्षा में शामिल किया जाए। सूत्रों के मुताबिक, आईआईटी परिषद सभी केंद्रीय वित्तपोषित तकनीकी संस्थानों के लिए समान काउंसिलिंग की व्यवहार्यता पर भी विचार कर सकती है।

मानव संसाधन विकास मंत्रालय और विश्वविद्यालय अनुदान आयोग द्वारा सोमवार को डीम्ट विश्वविद्यालयों के कुलपतियों की बुलाई गई बैठक में यह मंजूरी दी गई। बैठक का उद्घाटन मानव संसाधन विकास मंत्री कपिल सिब्बल ने किया। सूत्रों के अनुसार बैठक में डीम्ट विश्वविद्यालयों के इंजीनियरिंग कालेजों में एकल संयुक्त प्रवेश परीक्षा प्रणाली पर विस्तारपूर्वक विचार किया गया। सिब्बल ने बैठक में सभी डीम्ट विश्वविद्यालयों के लिए एक समिति गठित करने का सुझाव दिया जो इन विश्वविद्यालयों के साझा हितों से जुड़े मसलों का समन्वय कर सकें।



आइआइटी काउंसिल निकाल सकती है नया हल

# बोर्ड के टॉपों के लिए आसान होगी आइआइटी की राह

- ◆ जेईई-एडवांस में बेहतर रैंकिंग के साथ बोर्ड में आना होगा अब्बल

राजकेश्वर सिंह, नई दिल्ली

केंद्रीय इंजीनियरिंग शिक्षण संस्थानों में दाखिले के लिए एकल संयुक्त प्रवेश परीक्षा को लेकर भारतीय प्रौद्योगिकी संस्थानों (आइआइटी) के कड़े विरोध के बीच नया रास्ता निकल सकता है।

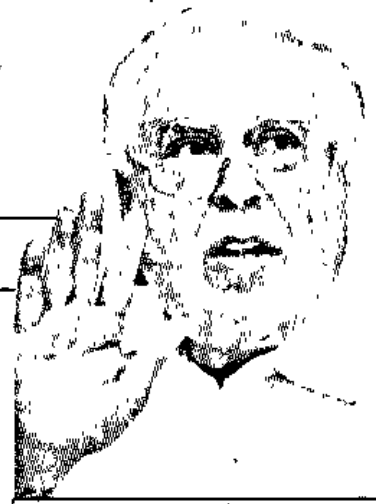
तब आइआइटी की बात भी रह जाएगी और स्कूल बोर्ड के अंकों को भरपूर तवज्जो (वेटेज) भी मिल जाएगी। आइआइटी काउंसिल ने नये फार्मूले को मंजूरी दी तो संयुक्त प्रवेश परीक्षा (जेईई) एडवांस में ऑल इंडिया रैंक में ऊंचा मुकाम हासिल करने वाले छात्रों को स्कूल बोर्ड के टॉप 20 से 30 प्रतिशत छात्रों में शामिल होना जरूरी हो जाएगा। सूत्रों के मुताबिक एकल संयुक्त प्रवेश परीक्षा के विरोध में आइआइटी-कानपुर समेत दूसरे भारतीय प्रौद्योगिकी संस्थानों के तेवरों को देखते हुए आइआइटी काउंसिल बुधवार की बैठक में नए फार्मूले पर फैसला कर सकती है। इसके तहत जेईई-मुख्य और जेईई-एडवांस की परीक्षाएं आयोजित की जा सकती है। बात

बनी तो अखिल भारतीय इंजीनियरिंग प्रवेश परीक्षा (एआइईईई) की तर्ज पर केंद्रीय माध्यमिक शिक्षा बोर्ड (सीबीएसई) अगले साल अप्रैल में जेईई-मुख्य परीक्षा का आयोजन कर सकता है। इसके बाद आइआइटी अपने स्तर पर जेईई-एडवांस का आयोजन कर सकता है।

सूत्रों का कहना है कि चूंकि आइआइटी अपने यहां सर्वाधिक प्रतिभाशाली छात्रों को ही दाखिला देना चाहती है। लिहाजा, जेईई-एडवांस में बेहतरीन नतीजे वाले छात्रों में से ऑल इंडिया रैंकिंग करके आइआइटी अपने लिए छात्रों का चयन कर सकती है, लेकिन उनके दाखिले का दायरेमदार उन छात्रों के स्कूल बोर्ड के अंकों पर निर्भर करेगा। बताते हैं कि जेईई-एडवांस में टॉप रैंकिंग हासिल करने वाले उन्हीं छात्रों को आइआइटी दाखिला देगी, जो अपने स्कूल बोर्डों के टॉप 20 से 30 प्रतिशत छात्रों में शामिल होंगे। नए फार्मूले के पीछे तर्क यह है कि इससे सभी स्कूल बोर्ड में टॉप करने वाले 20 से 30 प्रतिशत छात्रों के लिए आइआइटी जैसे देश के हाई प्रोफाइल संस्थानों में दाखिले की राह खुल जाएगी। जबकि संस्थानों को देशभर से सबसे ज्यादा प्रतिभाशाली छात्र मिल जाएंगे।

# आईआईटी काउंसिल में सिब्ल बनाम फेकल्टी फार्मूला

मानव संसाधन विकास मंत्री कपिल सिब्ल की अध्यक्षता में आईआईटी काउंसिल की बैठक बुधवार को होगी। इसमें सिंगल एंट्रेस टेस्ट पर आईआईटी फेकल्टी फेडरेशन की आपत्तियों पर चर्चा होनी है। संभावना है बैठक में फेकल्टी फेडरेशन की ओर से पेश किए जाने वाले नए फार्मूले पर चर्चा होगी। फेकल्टी बोर्ड अंकों को वेटेज देने के सिब्ल के फार्मूले की बजाय कटऑफ तय करने को पर्सटाइल फार्मूले पर जोर दे रही है।



## फेकल्टी का फार्मूला

- आईआईटी एंट्रेस टेस्ट में बैठने के लिए प्रत्येक राज्य बोर्ड के टॉप 20-30 फीसदी बच्चों को मौका दिया जाए।
- इनका चयन प्रत्येक बोर्ड की पर्सटाइल के आधार पर होगा। यानी यूपी बोर्ड में टॉपर 70 फीसदी अंक लाता है तो पर्सटाइल फार्मूले के तहत 50 फीसदी तक अंक लाने वाला छात्र परीक्षा दे सकेगा।

## सिब्ल का फार्मूला

- यह आईआईटी में प्रवेश की न्यूनतम योग्यता होगी। हालांकि अभी बोर्ड में 60 फीसदी अंक लाने वाले छात्र ही आईआईटी का एंट्रेस टेस्ट दे पाते हैं
- मेन टेस्ट की मेरिट के आधार पर करीब 50 हजार बच्चों का चयन होगा। ये एडवांस टेस्ट में शामिल होंगे, जिसकी मेरिट से 10 हजार छात्रों का चयन आईआईटी के लिए होगा

- पहले सभी छात्रों को एक ही दिन में एडवांस टेस्ट देना होगा। इसके बाद 12वीं के अंक और मेन के 50-50 फीसदी के वेटेज पर 50 हजार छात्रों को छांटा जाएगा। एडवांस टेस्ट की मेरिट के आधार पर 10 हजार छात्रों को आईआईटी में दाखिला मिलेगा। न्यूनतम अंक सीमा की बाध्यता नहीं।

काउंसिल की बैठक तीन बजे है। इससे पहले सभी आईआईटी की फेकल्टी एसोसिएशनों की बैठक बुलाई गई है। हम रणनीति तय करके अपना फार्मूला काउंसिल के समक्ष भेजेंगे। उम्मीद है काउंसिल का रुख सकारात्मक रहेगा, क्योंकि बच्चों में अनिश्चितता बनी हुई है अतुल मित्तल, सचिव, फेकल्टी फेडरेशन

## सरकार के फार्मूले पर आपत्ति

- बोर्ड के अंकों को वेटेज देने के लिए विभिन्न बोर्डों के अंकों के समानीकरण का फार्मूला कारगर नहीं
- बोर्ड को वेटेज से छात्रों पर दबाव बढ़ेगा। बोर्ड की कोचिंग बढ़ेगी

टेस्ट में निकलने वाले 50 हजार छात्रों को देना चाहिए। मेन में अच्छा प्रदर्शन नहीं करने वाले अन्य 12 लाख छात्र एडवांस टेस्ट क्यों दें। 11.50 लाख छात्रों को एडवांस टेस्ट के दबाव से मुक्ति मिलेगी

## फेडरेशन की अन्य मांगें

- एडवांस टेस्ट के आयोजन का पूरा जिम्मा आईआईटी के पास रहे
- सिब्ल के फार्मूले में पेपर आईआईटी तैयार करेंगे और आयोजन सीबीएसई करेगा

इनपुट  
विसं

## Yes Minister! You've got it right

Pradipta K. Mohapatra



RAT RACE: Students start preparing for the competitive entrance exams much before their school leaving year. A file picture of students at an IIT coaching centre in Chennai. Photo: V. Ganesan

*The Hindu*

*Kapil Sibal needs to be commended for upholding the importance of Class 12 marks for admissions to institutes of higher education*

After visiting New Delhi in the mid-1970s, the editor of an important American newspaper, the story goes, wrote that only in two places are Indians not permitted to have a drink at a five-star hotel — South Africa, and India!

Sadly, some 40 years later, that story could well be about Indian degrees and diplomas. India's Class 12 certificates issued by the Indian Certificate of Secondary Education (ICSE), Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) and various State Boards are accepted as a qualifying score for an admission to undergraduate classes in more than half of the top 200 universities in the world. The only country where these certificates are not accepted (or scores not recognised) is India itself. Why else would we run a plethora of entrance tests for admission into universities or institutes, the Indian Institutes of Technology (IIT) included? It is well recognised that there is great discrepancy between boards. The Odisha Board of Secondary Education may not be comparable to say, Delhi. But going by the number of students from Odisha crawling around Delhi University, this may not be entirely correct.

### Coaching industry at Kota

Union Minister of Human Resource Development (HRD) Kapil Sibal has now got it right by recognising that the Class 12 score must be considered, at least in part, for admission into higher education including the IITs. This, I hope, is the first step towards abolishing all entrance tests and recognising the certificates that are in any case issued by the government. By not recognising the Class 12 score we have created what we would call "Kota style education," which at the last count was a Rs.50,000 crore industry.

To elaborate: some 1,00,000 students on completion of Class 10 carry their bag and baggage, and at times, along with one of their parents, and travel to Kota, Rajasthan. The back-breaking two years involve admitting themselves to one of the several hundred coaching classes for the IITs, National Institutes of Technology (NIT) or medical colleges, where they work for about 18 hours a day. Neither the soaring temperatures in Kota nor the appalling living conditions bother them. As passing Class 12 is mandatory to get into the IITs, these students get admitted to one or another board as distance learners. They need only a pass certificate — the scores are unimportant.

"Kota style" education now thrives in the backstreets of Bethia, Berhampur and Tirunelveli. It is a \$10-billion industry,

and is now run by many public limited companies, some hugely funded by overseas private equity funds — \$10 billion is more than the government's annual funding to the University Grants Commission (UGC).

Mr. Sibal needs to be complimented for bringing sanity into higher education by recognising that our own degrees and diplomas must be counted in admissions to our own colleges and universities.

As for the hue and cry created by IIT alumni associations about the Minister's proposal to democratise IIT admission, you don't have to be a genius to appreciate and understand the sentiments of the IIT alumni. Let us not forget that they are all born and brought up in the same country as us and have grown up in the same feudal culture. They are the neo-Brahmins. After all, how can they permit children of lesser castes to get into their temples? This is the overriding sentiment. The purported line is that we must protect quality of education of the IITs. But the real need is to protect the IITs from "Kota style" coaching classes.

### **Five-point agenda**

Here is a five-point agenda to improve higher education, particularly technical education, in India.

**Create capacity:** Permit private institutions to significantly increase capacity. It is well known that the school to college dropout ratio is 70 per cent. The moment we say this, the bogey raised is that quality will fall. Therefore, what is required is a strong autonomous regulator that will certify the quality of education, like in all developed parts of the world. Encouraging quality, removing bottlenecks, and enhancing capacities should be the cornerstone architecture of the regulators rather than "control."

**Government managed (read controlled) technical education** is now about 10 per cent of the total number of seats. Increase the capacity of the IITs and NITs by 5x. People ask, where are the teachers (of "quality")? The answer is to increase the compensation package of teachers by 5x. Many corporate organisations are willing to sponsor chairs in much the same way as it happens in the western world, to pay deserving teachers.

**Introduce for-profit higher education:** The best kept secret is that the currently structured trust managed educational institutions are truly not "not-for-profit." We must acknowledge that and ask the regulator to grant, say, a 12 per cent equated return to investors in these institutes and universities.

**Create a band of adjunct faculty:** Top educational institutions all over the world operate with a strong partnership with industry and business. The starting point is to get a large list of volunteers from industry who are willing to devote time as adjunct faculty. Clearly there are issues of consistency in education delivery but industry bodies like the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) can very well be motivated to provide this thrust. We need to work on a model of how academics can work hand in hand with practising managers.

**Privatise some IITs and NITs:** privatising a non-profit organisation is bound to stir up a hornet's nest. But some IITs and NITs can be privatised on an experimental basis.

**Create competition:** Before the private universities bill has even been passed, the HRD Ministry is already talking about controls. The anti-competition lobby is already working to eliminate future competition. If our objective is to create capacity, let us welcome any registered university from any respectable part of the world. Competition will decide whether the students want to go to Delhi University or Hawaii University's campus in Delhi!

Amartya Sen, the Nobel laureate, said when asked about the large number of rural schools in India that have only one room and one teacher, "I will have a school with only one room and one teacher rather than no school at all." We can't change overnight our higher education to match MIT, Harvard or Oxford. Let's start with capacity creation as the top most agenda. In the meanwhile, congratulations Mr. Minister for the first, forward-looking step.

*(Pradipta K. Mohapatra is a Chennai-based executive coach for corporates.)*

## **IIT to work on drainage master plan**

*New Delhi, June 25*

**T**o rid the city of the perennial problem of water logging, the Delhi Government has decided to come out with a new drainage master plan to streamline the entire sewerage network and tasked the Delhi IIT with working on it. A meeting of the Delhi Cabinet, presided over by the Chief Minister, Ms Sheila Dikshit, gave its nod for appointing the IIT Delhi as a consultant for preparing a scientific master plan to improve the drainage system. After the meeting, Ms Dikshit said the last drainage master plan was finalised in 1981 and government felt it was time for coming out with a new plan. She said the drainage system has been upgraded in piecemeal manner from time to time by the civic agencies. The Chief Minister DDA has already notified the Master Plan of Delhi 2021 which sought a fresh approach to drainage problem. — **PTI**

# Dating an IITian just a click away

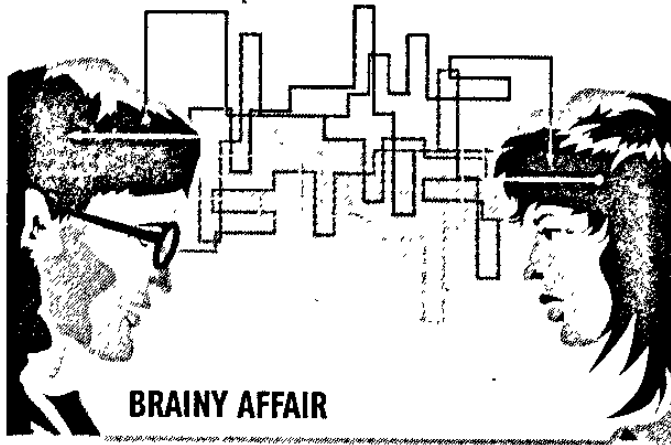
M SARASWATHY  
Mumbai, 26 June

Are you an IITian looking for some quality time, as a welcome break from the drudgery of studies? Or, put differently: Are you looking to date none else but the brilliant IIT-types?

If the answers are Yes, help is at hand - or, rather, a mouse. Three Indian Institute of Technology, Kharagpur, engineers have come up with a first-of-its-kind dating platform, called *dateiitians.com*. The brainchild of Layak Singh, Kinshuk Bairagi and Nikhil Kaushik, the website says it "attempts to connect IITians with non-IITians through a social networking medium".

The objective of the website, however, is far more ambitious than just "connect". The first stage is the 'buddy' request. Once that is accepted, comes the 'flirt' request, with facilities like sending virtual gifts and customised messages. Once a registered user crosses that stage, you get access to the 'crush' request. If that is also confirmed by the intended recipient, you move on to the final stage - called 'proposal'. If the 'proposal' isn't accepted - you can still send similar proposals to another person after five days.

With a new version of the site coming in August, users would also be able to avail many "premium" services, such as 3D chat,



## BRAINY AFFAIR

- A full version of the site is due for an August launch. Users will be able to avail of 'premium' services such as 3D chat
- At present, the site has 10,000 registered users, 40 per cent of whom are former and current IIT and IIM students
- An international version of the site, *cogxio.com*, targeting global universities is expected to be launched in few weeks
- A scanned copy of the PAN card or school/office ID has to be submitted to restrict creation of fake profiles
- One can upload pictures, status messages, write testimonials, send messages and create albums
- Site revenues are generated through its gifting services and advertising on the site

on the portal. Set up a few months earlier, the site has a little over 10,000 registered users, 40 per cent of whom are IIT and IIM students, current and former. The rest are students from NITs, medical colleges and other engineering colleges.

The website developers are now spreading the net wider. An international version of the site,

called *cogxio.com*, targeting global universities, is expected to be launched in the next few weeks.

"IITians are considered the most techies, geeks and nerds in India, so our aim was to connect IITians to others, so that both can interact with each other," said Layak Singh, co-founder of the site. About 30-35 per cent users are females,

he says.

The first step, the registration process, has various steps. After an email verification and a mobile number verification, the personal identity is also verified. To restrict creation of fake profiles, one needs to send a scanned copy of the taxpayer PAN card or school/office ID. Only after the details are verified is the account activated, in the next 24 hours.

Once registration is complete, it works like a social networking site. One can upload pictures, put up status messages, write testimonials and send private messages. Chat options are available and comment on status updates.

The portal has tie-ups with a few service providers, wherein one can buy real gifts. In progressing from one stage to the other, a user can collect points which can later be exchanged for real gifts from the portal.

It generates revenue through gifting services and advertising options. "The present portal is only 20 per cent of what the final version in August will offer. The new version will have more interaction options. However, the process of verification will also get stricter," said Singh.

He added the portal would look for funding after the new version was launched. "People in this country fear dating. If we are able to remove that fear, our job is done," he said.

# IIMs will soon give degrees, not diploma

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE

LUCKNOW, JUNE 26

**I**NSTEAD of diplomas, Indian Institutes of Management across the country would soon start giving degrees to their students. The decision was unanimously taken at the quarterly meeting review meeting of all IIMs, called by the Union Human Resource Development Ministry here on Tuesday.

Union Human Resource Development Minister Kapil Sibal, who attended the meeting which was held at the IIM Lucknow campus, said the need for issuing degrees was felt because when Indian students go abroad, "some of the recruiters do not treat diplomas at par with degrees".

"Our students have to face this after going through two years of rigorous course," he said.

Usually the review meetings are held in Delhi. This is the first time it was

“



**SOME OF** the recruiters do not treat diplomas at par with degrees...our students have to face this after going through two years of rigorous course.

**KAPIL SIBAL**, Union HRD Minister

”

held in Lucknow. Apart from directors of all 13 IIMs in the country and the minister, chairmen of the Ahmedabad, Rohtak and Kolkata IIMs were also present.

The meeting also discussed a proposal to set up a National Academy of Management on the lines of the National Academy of Law which could act as a think-tank for all the IIMs.

The participants agreed to start a world class journal of all the IIMs on the lines of the Harvard Business review.

Some of the new IIMs

also raised the issue of their inadequate infrastructure and the need to have better facilities.

Sibal assured that he would look into the matter.

Asked about the shortage of teachers at premier institutions, Sibal said there was no shortage as far as IIMs were concerned. He said that IITs were facing some shortage as their intake of students had increased after the introduction of the OBC quota but added that this shortage could be removed with the use of technology like video and tele-conferencing.

## President signs bill to make IT-BHU an IIT

**HT, Lucknow**

VARANASI: President Pratibha Patel has put her signatures on the bill paving way for the conversion of Institute of Technology (IT), Banaras Hindu University (BHU), into an Indian Institute of Technology (IIT).  
VARANASI: President Pratibha Patel has put her signatures on the bill paving way for the conversion of Institute of Technology (IT), Banaras Hindu University (BHU), into an Indian Institute of Technology (IIT).

The union human resource development (HRD) ministry has received the gazette and in the next two-three days the BHU is expected to receive communication in this regard.

According to sources, the President had signed the bill on June 21 and had forwarded it to the HRD ministry. If the BHU receives communication in this regard in the next two to three days, then Prof JN Sinha, existing director of the IT-BHU, would become the director of the IIT-BHU.

Sinha's tenure as director of the IT-BHU would end on June 30. But if the BHU receives the notification of conversion of IT-BHU into IIT before June 30, then Prof Sinha would continue as working director of the IIT.

According to rules and regulations of the IIT, the existing director of the institution, which is being upgrade into IIT, continues to be the director of the new IIT. He is replaced only after the IITboard appoints a new director.

The IIT-BHU bill was passed in the Lok Sabha in March 2011 and in the Rajya Sabha in April this year. The President would have signed the bill much earlier but the union law ministry had detected several anomalies in the bill. The original bill was sent to Lok Sabha speaker Meira Kumar for making necessary corrections in it. On June 3, the Lok Sabha speaker had made the necessary corrections in the bill and had sent it back to the union HRD ministry. The conversion of ITBHU into an IIT was a contentious issue. Some former students and teachers of the BHU were against this conversion stating that the IITBHU's control would rest with the IIT board and not the BHU. However, the BHU vice chancellor assured that the IITBHU's control would remain with the BHU. Karan Singh, chancellor of the BHU, has also assured that the control of the central university would remain with the vice chancellor.