

**Newspaper Clips**  
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Times of India ND 30/06/2015 P-18

# JEE(M) ranks on hold, tech admissions put off again

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**Mumbai:** IIT and NIT aspirants' anxiety increased on Monday as CBSE failed to release the ranks of JEE (Main) Paper-I and Paper-II, which has forced authorities to defer the joint seat allocation process by one more day.

This is the second revision in schedule in a week for the first-ever joint seat allocation process for 85 government-funded technical institutes, including IITs and NITs. Admissions to Maharashtra's engineering colleges may be delayed if the JEE (Main) Paper-I ranks are not released by Tuesday morning, when the seat allocation process is



scheduled to commence.

According to the original schedule, the process was to start on June 25. More than 13 lakh students were to be part of the process for admissions to 34,000 seats. CBSE officials remained unavailable for

comment on the delay. IIT-Bombay, the organizing IIT for JEE (Advanced) this year, is inundated with calls from anxious students and parents.

A source blamed the delay on state boards, including Odisha, Mizoram and Tripura, which did not send their results data in time. Besides, CBSE is yet to announce the scores of JEE (Main) Paper-II.

In the board's defence, a CBSE official had earlier said that according to the original schedule, the ranks were to be released only in the first week of July. A professor said students are anxious as admissions to several private institutes across the country have already begun.

# Draft IIM bill draconian, drop it

The draft Indian Institutes of Management bill, which the government has put out for comments from the public, will seriously undermine the autonomy of these centres of excellence and do much harm to them. In the first place, the very need for the bill is unclear. There are 13 IIMs in the country. The five older IIMs have earned reputation as premier business schools and others are establishing themselves. All the institutes cater to the growing demand for management education. One reason given for the bill is that it will change the diplomas now being awarded by the IIMs into degrees. But does the name of the certificate make any difference? Those who hold diplomas from the IIMs have made their mark at the national and international levels in business, public service, entrepreneurship and other areas. They have done better than many others who hold degrees from other schools.

The IIMs have earned their present status because they have the power to take their own academic, administrative and other decisions without interference from outside. It is this autonomy which will be undermined with the bill. If the bill is enacted, the IIMs will have to seek the approval of the government for most decisions. Apart from selecting the chairman, the government will have a say in the constitution of the governing board. It also envisages a co-ordination forum chaired by the Human Resource Development Minister and consisting of, among others, other Central and state ministers, "to deliberate on matters of interest" and to perform functions decided by the central government. These new structures give a clear indication of where the decisions will be taken. In fact, the government will have the power to influence matters relating to the appointment of faculty, fee structure, expansion plans, opening of new departments and even the construction of buildings.

Such interference will degrade these institutions and dilute the quality of the education they impart. India does not have any educational institutions of high international standing. The IIMs, with the IITs and the IISc, are among the better known centres of learning. Even they are now under threat, as seen in some earlier decisions relating to the IITs and the present move. These institutions are funded by the public exchequer. But they achieved their present stature because they had the freedom to grow and develop on their own. This freedom should not be compromised on the pretext of regulation. The directors of the IIMs and many of their distinguished alumni have criticised the provisions of the bill. The bill, or at least its unwelcome provisions, should be dropped.



# IIMs: Bill reduces us to operating centres

AGE CORRESPONDENT  
NEW DELHI, JUNE 29

A number of IIMs, led by IIM Ahmedabad, had criticised the government over the draft bill, saying this would not only curtail their autonomy but reduce the IIMs to a mere "operating centre", while arming the government with sweeping powers. "We are deeply concerned that some provisions of the bill would seriously compromise the autonomy of the institute. We believe this is an important bill for the future of management education and therefore requires critical review to ensure an optimal balance between autonomy and accountability of the institution," IIM-Ahmedabad chairperson A.M. Naik said in a letter to HRD minister Smriti Irani.

"If the bill turns out to be that a lot of decisions by the boards are subject to government approval, and the government has uniform norms, then that may or may not be the best thing for certain IIMs," said IIM Bangalore director Sushil Vachani.

IIM-A director Ashish Nanda said the government, through the bill, had proposed some kind of control in almost every decision that the institutes take. "The draft bill proposes control (of the) government in almost every matter such as selection of the chairman of the board of governors, fee structure."

# BusinessLine

TUESDAY, JUNE 30, 2015

## Death by degree

Academic independence has been key to the emergence of IIMs as centres of excellence. The draft IIM Bill will destroy this

The human resources development ministry's draft Indian Institutes of Management Bill, 2015 has been rightly pilloried by those concerned about preserving one of the few centres of excellence that India possesses in the field of higher education. Under the guise of ostensibly enshrining the IIMs as "institutions of national importance", and empowering the IIMs to grant degrees to their graduates instead of the postgraduate diplomas they currently confer, the draft Bill has strayed far from this purpose. As it stands, the provisions of the Bill strike at the academic and operational autonomy of the principal IIMs – the key to the creation of their global brand equity. The problem does not lie with either of these two stated objectives. Formal government recognition will only underscore what the public at large, millions of aspiring students and global hirers of talent already know – that the IIMs are indeed jewels in the crown of Indian higher education. The lack of a university degree has never been an impediment to IIM graduates getting prime jobs all over the world. Nor indeed has it been a barrier to those who have wished to pursue higher academic research; indeed, some of the current directors of IIMs are themselves IIM fellow. Neither the government nor other universities, at home and abroad, have had an issue recognising the IIMs' fellow programme as equivalent to a university PhD.

The problem arises with the provisions that the draft innocuously describes as "certain other matters connected with such institutions or incidental thereto". These will remove the independence of the Board of Governors of the IIMs – which feature stalwarts of industry and global experts in many fields at present – as well that of the directors of IIMs; it will convert them, instead, to mere rubber stamps. The real decision-making power will be transferred to officials of the ministry, who have neither the skill nor the experience to sit in judgment over academic matters. The draft is also worryingly vague about the process to be followed, like, for instance, in the appointment of directors, for which the power has been vested with the Centre.

The premier IIMs have earned financial independence from the Centre by building up a reputation for excellence, which has resulted in industry support and liberal grants and endowments from grateful alumni. In fact, they are among the most successful examples of public-private partnership one can find in this country. The newer IIMs admittedly need government support – but converting them to a fiefdom for babus will be too high a price to pay for this. Instead, the focus should be on developing clearer accountability for recipients of public funding, and unambiguous metrics to measure this. Rather than trying to fix what isn't broken, the Centre is better advised to focus on developing basic education and skill development, so that the nation can actually reap the benefits of its enormous demographic dividend.

## Hindu ND 30/06/2015 P-12

# Centre may tweak IIM Bill

**NEW DELHI:** Facing criticism over the draft IIM Bill that gives the Union government sweeping powers in policy matters of the prestigious business schools, the Human Resource Development Ministry is considering doing away with some contentious clauses that may infringe on their autonomy. Sources said a meeting with the heads of the IIMs could be called.

The Ministry may delete subsection (1) of section 36 which says the IIM "Board may, with the approval of the Central government, by notification, make regulations not inconsistent with this Act and the rules made thereunder to carry out the provisions of this Act."

The IIMs also want section 35 removed as it was not discussed with them. Section 35 empowers the Centre to "make rules for

### HRD Ministry likely to meet the heads of the IIMs

carrying out the provisions of this [IIM] Act." Several IIMs, especially the older ones led by the IIM-Ahmadabad, had come down heavily on the government, saying the Bill would not only curtail their autonomy but reduce them to a mere "operating centre," while arming the government with sweeping powers.

"We are deeply concerned that some provisions of the Bill would seriously compromise the autonomy of the institute," IIM-Ahmedabad chairperson A M Naik said in a letter to HRD Minister Smriti Irani. --PTI

Naya India ND 30.06.15 P-5

# थमैगा आईआईएम विवाद

आईआईएम विधेयक के कुछ उपबंधों को हटा सकता है मानव संसाधन विकास मंत्रालय।

नई दिल्ली ■ भाषा/डेस्क

मसौदा आईआईएम विधेयक में प्रतिष्ठित बिजनेस स्कूलों के संचालन की नीतियों में सरकार को व्यापक अधिकार देने की खुली आलोचनाओं के मद्देनजर मानव संसाधन विकास मंत्रालय इसके कुछ विवादित उपबंधों को हटाने पर विचार कर रहा है जो बिजनेस स्कूलों की स्वायत्ता का कथित तौर पर उल्लंघन कर सकते हैं।

आधिकारिक सूत्रों ने कहा कि मंत्रालय इन उपबंधों को हटाने की संभावना के बारे में विचार विमर्श की प्रक्रिया में है लेकिन अंतिम निर्णय इस मुद्दे पर मानव संसाधन विकास मंत्री स्मृति ईरानी के साथ चर्चा के बाद लिया जाएगा।

सूत्रों ने कहा कि विचार विमर्श के लिए आईआईएम प्रमुखों की एक बैठक बुलाई जा सकती है।

मंत्रालय मसौदा विधेयक की धारा 36 की उपधारा (1) को हटा सकती है जिसमें कहा गया है कि आईआईएम बोर्ड केंद्र सरकार की अनुमति से अधिसूचना द्वारा ऐसे नियम बना सकती है जो इस अधिनियम और इसके प्रावधानों के तहत बनाए गए नियमों के असंगत नहीं हों।

आईआईएम चाहती है कि मसौदा विधेयक की धारा 35 को हटाया जाए क्योंकि इस बारे में उनसे चर्चा नहीं की गई है। धारा 35 में केंद्र सरकार को अन्य चीजों के अलावा आईआईएम अधिनियम के प्रावधानों को आगे बढ़ाने के लिए नियम बनाने का अधिकार होगा।

आईआईएम अहमदाबाद समेत कई आईआईएम ने सरकार के मसौदा विधेयक की काफी आलोचना की और कहा कि इससे न केवल उनकी स्वायत्ता में कटौती होगी बल्कि आईआईएम महज परिचालक बनकर रह जाएगा जबकि सरकार को व्यापक अधिकार प्राप्त हो जाएंगे।

मानव संसाधन विकास मंत्री स्मृति ईरानी को लिखे पत्र में आईआईएम अहमदाबाद के अध्यक्ष ए एम नाइक ने कहा, 'हम इस बात से गंभीर रूप से चिंतित हैं कि मसौदा विधेयक के कुछ प्रावधानों से संस्थान की स्वायत्ता के



साथ गंभीर रूप से समझौता किया जाएगा। हम मानते हैं कि प्रबंधन शिक्षा के भविष्य के लिए यह महत्वपूर्ण विधेयक है और इसलिए संस्थान की स्वायत्ता और जवाबदेही के बीच अधिकतम संतुलन सुनिश्चित करने के लिए गहन समीक्षा करने की जरूरत है।' आईआईएम बंगलूर के निदेशक सुशील

बच्चानी ने कहा, 'अगर विधेयक इस रूप में आगे बढ़ता है तो बोर्ड के कई फैसलों के संबंध में सरकार के अनुमति की जरूरत होगी और सरकार का एक समान नियम होता है और ऐसे में कुछ मामलों में यह आईआईएम के लिए अच्छी बात हो सकती है और कुछ मामलों में नहीं।'

मसौदा विधेयक तैयार करने में शामिल आईआईएम के एक शिक्षण वर्ग के एक सदस्य ने अंतिम मसौदा देखकर आश्चर्य व्यक्त किया और कहा कि कुछ प्रावधानों को बिना विचार विमर्श के ही शामिल किया गया है।

आईआईएम ए के निदेशक आशीष नंदा के अनुसार, इस विधेयक के जरिये सरकार, संस्थान द्वारा लिए जाने वाले प्रत्येक फैसलों पर कुछ नियंत्रण रखने का प्रस्ताव कर रही है। नंदा ने कहा, 'मसौदा विधेयक में लगभग हर चीज पर सरकार के नियंत्रण का प्रस्ताव किया गया है जिनमें संचालक बोर्ड के अध्यक्ष का चयन, फीस ढांचा, खर्च आदि शामिल है। उन्होंने रणनीति से लेकर परिचालन संबंधी सभी फैसलों को शामिल कर लिया है।' आईआईएम कोलकाता, लखनऊ, बंगलूर, कोझीकोड और इंदौर ने विधेयक का विरोध किया है जबकि कुछ नए आईआईएम के प्रमुखों ने इसका समर्थन किया है।

# HRD Min to table IIM Bill during Winter session

**DHIRENDRA KUMAR**

**NEW DELHI:** Despite premier business schools objecting to some clauses in the contentious Indian Institutes of Management (IIM) Bill, the HRD Ministry is all set to table the draft in the upcoming Winter Session of Parliament. According to sources, HRD Minister Smriti Irani has asked officials to go ahead with the present form of the Bill and incorporate comments and suggestions received till the last date i.e., June 24.

The Ministry's stand is being seen as a setback for the premier management schools, which have been urging the Centre to incorporate the changes suggested by them. IIM-Ahmedabad, IIM-Bangalore and IIM-Lucknow have been criticising the proposed legislation, dubbing it as designed to erode their autonomy and vest sweeping authority with the government.

"The Ministry has started processing the comments and suggestions received from June 9 to 24. The suggestions are being incorporated in the draft Bill, which will be tabled before the HRD Minister, after she returns from Bahamas," a senior official in the HRD Ministry told Millennium Post. The official added: "We have only a few weeks left for preparing the final draft of the Bill as the Winter Session of Parliament will commence from July 21 and conclude on August 13."

Asked if there is any plan to consider the demand of premier



**Smriti Irani**

B-schools for extension of suggestion dates, the official said: "As per my knowledge, there is no plan. We have been told to finalise the draft Bill on urgent basis, keeping in mind that it will be introduced in the upcoming session."

The official added: "The IIM Bill will not dilute their autonomy rather it will empower them as after the new Act, IIMs will be eligible to offer degree courses in management studies."

IIMs have raised objections mainly over Sections 3(k), 35 and 36 in the Bill, which according to them empower the Centre to set rules for the premier management institutes.

Notably, IIM-A has asked to remove the phrase "with the approval of the Central government" from Sections 3 and 36 as it believes that the phrase will erode the autonomy of the institute. Clause 35 reads: "The Central government may, by notification, make rules, for carrying out the provisions of this Act," while Section 36 states: "The board may, with the approval of the Central government, by notification, make regulations not inconsistent with this Act and the rules made there under to carry out the provisions of this Act."

**IIM BILL** More than control vs autonomy, it's about expanding quality management education

# Now to Teeth Our B-Schools



**Trilochan Sastry**

**T**he real issue behind the proposed IIM Bill is not government control versus autonomy. It is about making top-class management education available to an ever-rising number of aspirants, and giving the economy better-trained management graduates in much larger numbers.

Worrying about falling education standards, US President Barack Obama said, "The nation that out-educates us today is going to out-compete us tomorrow." We in India need to worry about it even more.

About 1.7 lakh people took the Common Admission Test to the IIMs for 3,700 seats. The number of reputed private business schools in India is still small. An increasing number of students, therefore, go abroad. While the majority is from affluent families, a few also get scholarships.

It is not clear whether the government should spend money to set up new IIMs, or ask the existing IIMs to raise their intake — which is very small compared to international business schools — or encourage new private business schools to come up. Some well-respected industrialists have shied away from setting up management schools because the regulations are far too cumbersome and cause inordinate delays.

At present, the debate on the proposed Bill is on the issue of autonomy. Specifically, on control over the director's appointment, the remunerati-

on being tied to government salaries and imposing outdated administrative structures within the IIMs. It also proposes a coordination forum across IIMs, which, among other things, shall "perform such other functions as may be referred to it by the central government". Many issues that are best left to the institutes to specify, including their mission, goals and internal administration, are specified in detail in the proposed Act.

## Fingers in the Pie

One of the goals in the Bill is uniformity, not excellence. It tweaks the older IIT Act. Some of the provisions are good. For instance, the one reducing the board's size. However, the framework is faulty. It gives more scope for political and bureaucratic interference. The chairman of IIT-Mumbai and the chairman of the Standing Committee of the IIT Council resigned, as did the director of IIT-Delhi.

One of India's premier medical institutes, the All India Institute of Medical Sciences, is now periodically embroiled in controversy. Hopefully, this will not happen to the IITs and IIMs. Recognising the danger of this, the government-run University of California system said in its statutes way back in the 19th century, "The university shall be entirely independent of all political and sectarian influence and kept free therefrom in the appointment of its regents and in the administration of its affairs."

We have so few IIMs that are excellent and we need to protect and support them to become better. The IITs also deserve a better Act. This does not mean that leaving the IIMs alone will raise the standards of management education. There is scope for improvement. But the way ahead is not through this Bill or through greater control. We need a vision behind it.

For instance, Chinese President



**Much more than just establishing command and control**

Jiang Zemin declared in 1998 that "China must have a number of first-rate universities of international advanced level". We also need to put the right structures and incentives in place. One way out is to specify international levels of excellence, and greater autonomy and accountability on tangible results and outputs.

This includes quality of teaching, research and relevance to industry and the economy. Most important, the 'umpiring', the setting of standards and their monitoring, needs to be based on a peer system with outstanding and credible academics of national and international standing.

How do we compare with other countries, notably China, in management education? While rankings are not always the best measure, China scores better than us. The Financial Times has six Chinese business schools in the top 50, while India has two. The Economist has four and one, and the QS MBA ranking has six and three, respectively.

The number of international students in China is high and growing. Two-thirds of the students at the Guanghua School of Management, for instance, are from outside China. In India, there are very few. Though the-

re may be some bias against Asia in these rankings, the overall message is clear: we have a long way to go.

Other Asian countries like Singapore, Taiwan, and South Korea are also marching ahead and investing in management education to achieve higher levels of excellence.

## Shed the Thick Skin

Harvard Business School professor Michael Porter said, "The basis of competition has shifted more and more to the creation and assimilation of knowledge". The old framework of thinking about the issue in terms of control versus autonomy, government versus private business schools, and India versus the West is no longer relevant. Given talent and opportunity, our young generation, including the rural, non-English speaking ones, have overthrown this framework and excelled even in the West.

The key question is how do we compete with the rest of the world, and build a management education system that serves the youth and the nation. There is enough and more talent in this country to make this happen.

*The writer is professor and former dean (academics), IIM-Bangalore*

One way to put right structures and incentives in place is to specify global levels of excellence, and greater autonomy and accountability on tangible results

## WHY JEE (MAIN) RANKS MATTER

Hindustan Times (Mumbai)

Admissions to NITs are based on the JEE (Main) ranks, which the Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) arrives at taking the Class 12 (40%) and JEE (Main) scores across all state boards into account. For admissions to IITs, students need to be in the top 20 percentile of their boards or score more than 75%.

## Indians spend 47% of time on apps like WhatsApp, Skype: Report

<http://www.hindustantimes.com/technology-topstories/indians-spend-47-of-time-on-apps-like-whatsapp-skype-report/article1-1363962.aspx>

Smartphone users in India spend 47% of their time on communication applications such as WhatsApp, We Chat, Hike and Skype which are key driver of mobile broadband usage, says a report.

"Communication continues to be the dominant activity on smartphones. Communication apps are 'always on' and are a key driver of mobile broadband usage," the report by Swedish telecom equipment maker Ericsson said.

"As per our report, Indians spend 47% of time using communications apps such as voice, instant messaging, voice over internet protocol (example Skype), emails and social networking on smartphones," Ericsson said.

The report said communication apps have a higher dependency on mobile broadband usage, due to their 'always on' status.

The report analysed app usage behaviour using on-device measurements across several markets, including India, with a particular focus on how messaging and social media apps influence the way people communicate.

The research sample represents Android smartphone users in India, Japan, South Korea, the UK, and the US. In India, 7,500 Android users were surveyed.

The report said across the US, the UK and India, more than 30% of the time spent on smartphones is spent on communicating apps.

"We found that 40-50% of data consumption for communication apps uses mobile broadband, whereas the corresponding figure for video is just 20%," Ericsson ConsumerLab Senior Advisor Swetleena Swain said.

## #ProTalks An interview on the success of Super-30 programme: Hardwork is the key to success

<http://indiatoday.intoday.in/education/story/an-interview-with-anand-kumar/1/447857.html>

His financial conditions did not stop him, and today Anand Kumar and his Super 30 are famous worldwide.

**Q1) Everyone has heard a lot about your Super 30 initiative, but we want to know how did you come up with the idea of starting it?**

My brother Pranav Kumar is the reason of my motivation as he knew I had keen interest in Mathematics so he suggested me to turn this interest into a profession. That's when I started teaching 2 students at the time by giving them free education. In 1997, I got famous for teaching Mathematics, an article was also published in June and its tag line was 'Bina Rupaiya ka Hisaab'. After that a lot of students came to study and we started taking Rs 500 from each student. Knowing this, we thought of fixing basic facilities like water in our house for a larger group of people, also renovated our house and added 2 floors in it. Over the period of time we even opened a coaching centre.

**Q2) When did you come to know about your interest in Mathematics?**

Actually I was keen about mathematics since childhood and had a desire to be a good Mathematics teacher. During graduation, I submitted papers on Number Theory, which were published in Mathematical Spectrum and The Mathematical Gazette and that's when I thought innovation, creativity and invention is very important and necessary. I also secured admission to Cambridge University, but could not attend because of my father's sudden death and family's financial condition.

**Q3) Why is it only Super 30 and not maybe Super 50 or 100?**

I had already started with my group classes but when a poor student came up to me seeking coaching and he couldn't afford the admission fee due to financial conditions, that day I was motivated to start the Super 30 programme in 2002 where I taught those children who desired to study but couldn't afford the education fee. Earlier I never planned for this Super 30 programme neither did I acquire the knowledge of management.

**Q4) What strategy do you use while selecting students for Super 30?**

There is no strategy just a simple method to provide education. Every year we conduct an exam to select 30 students for the 'Super 30' programme where many students appear for the exam, and eventually I select 30 intelligent students from financially backward sections, teach them, and provide study materials for a year.

**Q5) According to your website, it is clear that you do not take any donations or financial support from the government or any private agency. How do you manage to run this programme?**

Ours is a joint family and we all give tuitions and coordinate with each other, my wife teaches poor kids and my brother takes care of the management and his wife teaches too, whereas my mother Jayanti Devi, cooks food for the students. So through tuition classes we earn enough money, but yes, we also never request for money from the students.





**Q6) Inspired by your programme, now there is a programme called Rahmani 30. Do you see this new programme as competition for Super 30?**

There is nothing like competition. It's good that people are conducting such programmes for improvement in education. I want people to do more of such motivational programmes than Super 30, but I don't want them to do it as an income source. There are many shows like Gaya 30, Nalanda 50, and these programmes are doing really well, I give them well wishes and if they want my support, I will give it to them.

**Q6) You have your own institute called Ramanujan School of Mathematics, why did you choose to create a separate programme called Super 30?**

The objective of Super 30 is to educate students without money and who seek coaching specially for IIT-JEE, whereas Ramanujan School of Mathematics is an organised society where my wife teaches the slum kids in the evening.

**Q7) If you were not heading the Super 30, then what else would you be doing?**

I might have built an engineering college or opened a coaching centre in Kota, or there can be many other things but it is difficult to tell right now.

**Q8) Say in about 10 years, what do you think the future of Super 30 would be?**

I want to make it very big and large and want to shift it from 30 to 40 to 50. I want thousands of students to grasp knowledge from it and after 20 years, at the time of my retirement I wish to see many people adopting the same programme and helping to improve education for students who desire to study because I don't want students to leave studies because of lack of money.

**Q9) Did you ever think that Super 30 will get famous?**

No, I never imagined Super 30 getting this famous. I feel it's the students who joined my classes and did well for themselves and made my programme big.

Our country's Chief minister, Narendra Modi discussed our Super 30 and even greeted us. And not only this, Priyanka Chopra also updated about our programme on her timeline. All this was very unexpected and I am really happy!