Newspaper Clips
March 10-11, 2013

March 10

Times of India
10/03/2013   P-6

AIIMS, IIT, DU in India's top 10

Manash Pratim Gohain | TNN

New Delhi: Three institutions from Delhi are among the top 10 Indian centres for higher learning. All India Institute of Medical Sciences is in third place while Indian Institute of Technology Delhi and Delhi University are in fifth and sixth places, respectively.

The Indian Institute of Science Bangalore has taken number one position on the list of the Times Higher Education India Reputation Rankings, published alongside the Times Higher Education World Reputation Rankings. Introduced for the first time, the ranking is based on global academic prestige in teaching and research.

TIMES RANKINGS

There are still no Indian institutes in the global top 100. Two Indian institutions in the top 200 are IIT Bombay and IISc. The first five places on the new ranking list are occupied by 'specialist institutes' like IISc, IIT-B, AIIMS, IIK-K and IIT-D respectively. In the sixth place is DU — first full-fledged university on the list. IIT Madras, IIT Kharagpur, Aligarh Muslim University and University of Hyderabad occupy the remaining four positions in descending order on the list.

The 2013 edition of rankings are based on the results of a survey of over 16,600 academics from across the globe. They were asked to name a handful of 'best' institutions in their field. The report stated that, among the BRIC nations, India is the only one missing from the world top 100. "As a country with a rapidly growing economy and a fine tradition of scholarship, it is a cause for concern that India does not have any institutions that are sufficiently highly regarded by international scholars... This inaugural India Reputation Ranking not only gives a sense of the pecking order within India but also shows how far its top institutions must travel to join the elite top 100," Phil Baty, rankings editor, said.

Observing that Indian institutions are not investing in research, former vice-chancellor of DU Deepak Pental said, "We are not fully committed to research in the universities. Research is fragmented, mostly carried out by small and specialized institutions... We are not investing enough in research which is a key factor in rankings. If our universities are creating new knowledge, our curriculum will keep updating which is not happening. We are following a strange model of opting out of the competition. It's not a good situation for the country."

Rs 800 crore for IIT Mandi: Raju

MANDI, (HP), PTI: Over Rs 800 crore would be spent on the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) at Mandi in the coming year to develop it as a major centre for learning, research and innovation, said Union human resource development minister M M Pallam Raju.

Inaugurating a new block of IIT-Mandi here on Saturday, he said the quality of infrastructure would not be compromised with and the central government would provide adequate funding for the purpose.

"IIT Mandi has made great strides, and with inauguration of the new campus it has attained the distinction of being the first among the new IITs to have full residential and academic facility within the cam-

pus. This IIT is a turning point and is expected to give the Himalayan region a world renowned centre for learning, research and innovation," he said.

Speaking on the occasion, chief minister Virbhadra Singh said the decisions to open IIT at Mandi and a central university in Kangra district were taken by the Congress government. He further said that this IIT was becoming synonymous with quality higher education and would soon be among the

PALLAM RAJU: IIT Mandi has attained the distinction of being the first among the new IITs to have full residential and academic facility within the campus.

excellent technical learning centres the country.

The CM also thanked the centre for liberal financial assistance to establish various higher education institutions in the state. The centre has also sanctioned an Indian Institute of Information Technology (IIIT) for the state which would soon be established in Una, he added.

DANIK BHASKAR
ND 10/03/2013
P-13

पल्लम राजू ने किया हिमाचल के आईआईटी परिसर का शुभारंभ

भास्कर न्यूज. कमांद (मंडी). देश के उच्च शिक्षण संस्थानों में किए जा रहे शोध को आम आदमी तक पहुंचाने के लिए उद्योगों के साथ तालमेल बिठा कर शोध को उत्पादन में बदला जाएगा। केंद्रीय मानव संसाधन मंत्री पल्लम राजू ने आईआईटी कमांद (मंडी) के निर्माणाधीन परिसर के शुभारंभ के बाद पत्रकारों से कहा कि उच्च शिक्षण संस्थान शोध तो बेहतर कर रहे हैं लेकिन वह आम आदमी तक नहीं पहुंच रहे हैं। उन्होंने कहा कि इसका मुख्य कारण शोध और उद्योग के बीच किसी भी प्रकार का तालमेल न होना है इसलिए पहली बार मंत्रालय ने अपने स्तर पर शोध को उद्योग मंत्रालय के माध्यम से उत्पाद बनाकर जनता के बीच लाने का मसौदा तैयार किया है। उन्होंने कहा कि हिमालयी क्षेत्र जहां पर कठिन भौगोलिक परिस्थितियां हैं उन क्षेत्रों में बड़े शिक्षण संस्थान खोलना मुश्किल है लेकिन पॉलीटेक्निक कॉलेजों के माध्यम से तकनीकी शिक्षा ग्रामीण क्षेत्रों में पहुंचाई जा सकती है।

Dainik Jagran ND 10/03/2013

P-12

'पैडल कार' : प्रदूषण नहीं होगा, सेहत भी सुधरेगी

◆ आइआइटी में सेमिनार, दिखा जुगाड़ का कमाल

जागरण संवाददाता, कानपुर : भारतीय प्रौद्योगिकी संस्थान (आईआईटी) के अनौपचारिक संगठन एनसियंट साइंस एंड टेक्नोलोजी की अगुवाई में आयोजित सेमिनार में वक्ताओं ने जहां और नवाचार पर जोर दिया तो जुगाड़ का कमाल भी दिखा। साइकिल के पहिये एवं कार की स्टेयरिंग से तैयार पैडल काल का लोगों ने मजा लिया।

शहर में आस-पास के क्षेत्रों से तमाम लोग साइकिल से दूध व सब्जी बेचने आते हैं। इनकी सुरक्षा को ध्यान में रखकर पैडल कार का प्रारुप तैयार किया है। यह जानकारी एयरोस्पेस इंजीनियरिंग विभाग के प्रोफेसर डीपी मिश्रा ने बताया कि उनकी डिजाइन को अभिषेक और आलोक ने तैयार किया है। चार लोग इसे 20 से 25 किलोमीटर की रफ्तार से पैडल के सहारे दौड़ा सकते हैं तो इससे प्रदूषण नहीं होगा

क्योंकि इसमें ईंधन का इस्तेमाल ही नहीं होता है। लगभग 15 हजार रुपये में इसे तैयार किया जा सकता है। पहले चरण में इसे परिसर में चलाया जायेगा। बांस की साइकिल के बाबत बताया कि फ्रांस के लोगों ने इसमें रुचि दिखाई है लेकिन भारतीय लोगों में कोई रूझान नहीं दिखाया।

बांध से मुक्त हो गंगा

सेमिनार में मुख्य अतिथि प्रोफेसर जीडी अग्रवाल (स्वामी ज्ञान स्वरूप सानंद) ने कहा कि बांध गंगा के प्रवाह को नुकसान पहुंचाते हैं तो शुद्धीकरण की क्षमता को कम करते हैं। गंगा से लोग जुड़े तभी गंगा और शुद्ध होंगी। डॉ.डीपी मिश्र ने दिल्ली के लौह स्तंभ की विशेषता बताई तो कोणार्क मंदिर का आर्किटेक्चर बताया। अविनाश आचार्य ने नटराज की मूर्ति की एवं हर्ष वर्धन ने वैदिक काल में स्पैक्ट्रोस्कोपी की उपयोगिता बताई। डॉ.नीलम त्रिवेदी ने वेद में भूगर्भ विज्ञान की महत्ता बताई। प्रो.एचसी वर्मा ने जीरो एवं दशमलव से पूर्व ज्यामितीय का महत्व बताया।

Letting it all out, anon

Narayanan Krishnaswami | TNN

The word "confession" can bring to mind closed booths in churches, shopaholics or a series of bad sex comedies that appeared in the US in the 1970s. But right now, online confessional pages are the big thing among India's institutes of higher learning.

As Facebook's quest for world domination marches onward, the social networking site has spawned a cottage industry of sub-sites and tumblr microblogs that derive content exclusively from things people say on Facebook. There are sites like Lamebook and Failbook where you will find posts that make you cringe and responses that might make you snort coffee over your keypad.

There are other Facebook fads — there was the "Bra colour Facebook update" — something that took off in mid-2010 in response to a post about breast cancer awareness. Doppelgänger week had people changing their profile pictures to those of celebrities that they supposedly resembled. Urban dictionary week people posting the first entry that turned up when they searched for their name at the UrbanDictionary.com site.

Team Destiny is a group of four IIT Madras students behind the "IIT Madras Confessions" Facebook page. They were willing to talk to us for the purposes of this story, but only via Facebook messaging, saying that they did not want to risk the institute's administration discovering who they were. The group set up a form where students could post anonymous confessions. You have to answer a high school maths problem to gain entry and prove you aren't a spambot.

"We have got 1,556 submissions (and counting). From those, 615 have been posted to the page," says a Team Destinyer. The page has been up for less

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A lot of these confessions are light-hearted, some passionionate and a few deeply moving. Author Meenakshi Reddy Madhavan thinks these confessions are a way of purging. "People find it liberating to just let go and reveal all, having a secret can be a terribly tense thing," she says

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Online 'confession' pages on social networks are a big hit on campuses across the country

Kumarapuram

SCREEN DISCLOSURES

➤ I keep Savita Bhabhi pdfs in my mobile. I glance on them when a lecture seems too heavy to handle. #IITBombay

➤ I am fresher from IITD. As my hometown is Delhi, my father used to visit me at least once a week along with my sister. Seeing all the weird looks of people at my sister, I told my sister not to come here any more

➤ I passed out in 2012 and am working with a top company since then. I like the job. The work is good and so is the pay. But what troubles me is that how people treat me when they come to know that I am an IITian. They expect me to be different from others in everything be it my presentations, my project reports etc. I am sick of hearing, "*Tu to IIT wala hai yaar*"

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than a fortnight.

The IITs weren't the only ones to put up confession pages in February. A number of colleges and institutions — from BITS, Pilani to the Asian College of Journalism, and from the Vellore Institute of Technology to the IIMs have had confession pages pop up in the last month. Even schools have gotten in on the act now.

The impetus for these confession sites was the wave of publicity given to the original IIT Confessions Facebook page. "We got the idea for the IIT-M Confession Box from the page IIT Confessions, which itself has foreign origins — Stanford Confessions etc.," says one Team Destiny member.

"To be honest, we were just motivated by the confession pages the IITs had," says AU_Admin, the person behind the Anna University confessions page.

A lot of these confessions are light hearted. Some are funny, some are passionate and some can be deeply moving. There are the usual suspects, like the staples of hostel life — bathing: "I once went on without having a bath for 10 straight days..."; underwear: "When I run out of clean underwear I just flip them inside out and reuse them"; unrequited love: "I was in love with the TA of last sem's ID1100."

Then there are the more serious posts — students declaring their sexuality and their frustrations with the cruelty and stereotyping they face from their peers. There are, inevita-

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bly, arguments about reservation policies and caste discrimination, which can set off flame wars. "We initially posted some 'anger against reservations' and 'caste discrimination' confessions because we believed that the posters were genuine, but this caused some serious issues and opinion wars. We took them down and decided not post any more anonymous posts to the page," says the IIT Madras page administrator.

There are the creepier posts. Stalker behaviour. Misogyny. Tall claims of public sex. "A lot of these confessions are by total losers who just want attention," says Shreya Pandey, a college student. Her feelings are echoed by Confession #198 on the BITS Confessions page. "To all the boys of all campuses: Please stop proposing to us on FB pages anonymously. You are just creeping us out. If you really like a girl then have the guts to go to her directly and ask her face-to-face – Girls."

Meenakshi Reddy Madhavan is the author of three novels, and she started off as a blogger, aka The Compulsive Confessor. "I think (these confessions) are a way of purging. People find it liberating to just let go and reveal all, having a secret can be a terribly tense thing," she says. Anonymity makes a big difference. "Back when my blog was anon, I found myself saying a lot more than I do now, something about being able to talk about a bad date, a fight with a friend, with no one being able to attach a name to the face was nice. Also, if your secret is about someone else, you might stay anonymous to protect them," she says.

"Your target age group is 17 to 25 year olds. The tendency to share is present in everyone, but it is much more marked in this age group," says Dr B R Madhukar, a leading Bangalore psychiatrist. "Initially, people would write letters or make phone calls, but social media allows you to reach a much larger audience, and a lot of these young people need to tell the world that 'they are there'. While the tendency to sensationalize is inevitable, there is also the hope that someone, somewhere, can understand, can empathise." Madhukar believes that confessions —even anonymous confessions can help one's emotional state.

But for now, it's more about connection than catharsis, about pranks and jokes and habits and discussions about girls and boys and the occasional lesson or exam that has always and will forever be the basis of college life everywhere.

Business Standard ND 10/03/2013

P-14

Indians still fancy a US degree, say researchers

51% of GMAT takers in India prefer the US as a study destination, followed by India and the UK: Report

The US continues to be the preferred destination for higher studies for Indian students though there has been a seven per cent drop in their numbers from 2008 to 2012

STUDYING ABROAD

* In terms of total GMAT exams taken in testing year (TY) 2012, Indians represented the third largest group of prospective students in the B-school pipeline, after the US and China

* Netherlands, Germany, Spain and Australia are emerging as new study destinations for students

* GMAC research said schools in India, Singapore, and Hong Kong collectively received 90 per cent of the total scores sent into the region in TY 2012

M SARASWATHY
Mumbai, 9 March

Indian students still prefer to join an educational institution in the United States for higher education, according to Lawrence M Rudner, vice-president of research and development at the Graduate Management Admission Council (GMAC). Though there has been a seven per cent drop from 2008 to 2012 in Indian students wanting to go to the US for education, Rudner said the top five destinations continued to be the same.

The research conducted by GMAC said 51 per cent of Graduate Management Admission Test (GMAT) takers in India preferred the US as a study destination, followed by India and the United Kingdom. The other nations included Singapore and France.

Michelle Sparkman-Renz, director, research communications at GMAC explained one interesting trend and that is management degrees and MBA degrees in particular, are in demand. "Global employers' demand for new MBA hires has gone up in 2012. More companies worldwide plan to hire recent MBA graduates in 2012 (79 per cent of companies worldwide, up from 72 per cent of companies that hired MBA graduates in 2011).

In terms of total GMAT exams taken in testing year (TY) 2012, Indians represented the third largest group of prospective students in the B-school pipeline, after the US and China. A total of 30,213 Indians sat for GMAT exam in 2012, representing 27 per cent of the total 1,10,737 test takers by Asian citizens in the last

testing year. India was the second highest in score-sending among Asian citizens.

Indians who sat for the GMAT exam in TY 2012 sent a total of 1,33,557 score reports, representing 38 per cent of a total of 3,54,996 score reports sent by Asian citizens. This is second to Chinese citizens, which sent 165,374 (47 per cent) in TY 2012.

In terms of the gender-statistics, globally, 43 per cent of GMAT takers are women. In this segment, Rudner said there was a wide scope for improvement. In India, about 25 per cent of GMAT candidates are women, compared to 39 per cent women in US. However, he said the number of women has risen from 23 per cent to 25 per cent in the last five years.

While the most preferred destinations occupying the top five positions have almost remained the same, in the past four to five years, Michelle Sparkman-Renz said newer destinations were emerging to become students' favourites. These regions include Netherlands, Germany, Spain and Australia.

GMAC research said schools in India, Singapore, and Hong Kong collectively received 90 per cent of the total scores sent into the region in TY 2012. Management programs across Asia received 58,919 GMAT score reports from prospective students across the globe in TY 2012, an increase of 54 per cent compared with TY 2008.

In India, the employers' demand for new MBA hires in 2012 (88 per cent of companies planning to hire) exceeds both the global average (79 per cent companies) for MBA hiring

and the Asia-Pacific regional average (80 per cent companies). The percentage of Indian employers planning to hire MBAs in 2012 is on a par with the 89 per cent of Indian employers that reported hiring of MBAs in 2011.

In the Asia-Pacific region, 80 per cent of employers reported plans to hire MBAs in 2012, which represents a 9 per cent increase over the number of companies that hired MBA graduates in 2011.

To create more awareness, Rudner said they were positioning the research among the stakeholders and institutions concerned, to help them understand the market perspectives of the MBA programme and to gauge the value of a degree. Recently, GMAC inducted Indian Institute of Management-Calcutta (IIM-C) and Xavier Labour Relations Institute-Jamshedpur, as GMAC members. These institutes will have access to GMAC's market research on management education in the world.

Other GMAC member institutes in India include IIM-Lucknow, IIM-Ahmedabad, IIM-Bangalore, Indian School of Business-Hyderabad, NMIMS University's School of Business Management, Great Lakes Institute of Management, and S P Jain Institute of Management & Research.

GMAC is a non-profit education organisation of the global graduate business schools and owns the GMAT exam, which is accepted by more than 5,500 graduate business and management programmes in over 110 nations.

DU to do away with Honours & BA, BSc, BCom Pass courses

Nomenclature of courses has been changed for four-year UG courses set to begin this July

ADITI VATSA
NEW DELHI I MARCH 9

THE coming academic year, students seeking admission to undergraduate courses in Delhi University may no longer have the option of choosing BA/BSc/BCom Honours courses or the Programme or pass courses.

With the four-year undergraduate programme set to begin from July, Delhi University has brought about a change in the nomenclature of courses.

Under the existing system, a student can choose an Honours course in a subject of his/her choice or a BA/BSc/BCom Programme or Pass courses.

Under the Programme or Pass courses, students get to study multiple subjects during the three years of their undergraduate degree.

NAME CHANGE

DEGREE NOMENCLATUREUNDER THE FOUR-YEAR UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAMME

■ If a student exits after two years:ASSOCIATE BACCALAUREATE

■ If a student exits after three years: BACCALAUREATE

■ On completion of all four years: BACCALAUREATE WITH
                            HONOURS OR BTECH

But since the four-year undergraduate courses have the option of multiple exit points, the degree a student receives will depend on the number of years the student spends on the course and his/her choice of subjects.

Thus, under the four year degree system, a student who exits the course after two years will be an Associate Baccalaureate.

If he/she opts out of the course after three years, the student will be a Baccalaureate.

On the completion of four years, the student will either get a Baccalaureate with Honours in his/her major discipline subject or a BTech degree.

Delhi University Vice-Chancellor Dinesh Singh said the reason behind this change was to do away with the distinction between various disciplines.

"We want to convey the idea that this kind of distinction between disciplines is not always healthy. If a student who has taken physics as his major discipline also studies six papers in history, which is his minor discipline, what degree do you give him — BA or B Sc? We changed the nomenclature to do away with this confusion," he said.

Though the university is yet to finetune the new system, officials said they were planning to award Baccalaureate degrees to humanities students and BTech degrees to science students.

Talking about the idea behind giving a BTech degree, a senior university official said, "There are hundreds of private colleges which offer BTech degrees, some of which are not recognised. Why shouldn't a student who has spent four years on an undergraduate course in Delhi University get a BTech degree?"

With the emphasis on inter- and trans-disciplinarity, students of the four year courses will have to study 11 foundation courses.

These courses will cover a variety of subjects like information technology, governance and citizenship, geographic and socio-economic diversity, language and literature, science and life, mathematical ability, history, culture and civilization, environment and public health.

Apart from the major discipline in which a student is admitted, he/she will also study six papers in another subject — the minor discipline.

In addition to these two subjects and the 11 foundation courses in a range of disciplines, he/she can also study another discipline as an applied course.

University officials said that the admission to the four-year undergraduate programme will not see a departure from the existing admission policy.

Spike in women GMAT takers

60% Rise Between 2007 And '12; Indians Rank Third Globally

Hinmanshi Dhawan | TNN

New Delhi: Indian women may not have taken over corporate boardrooms yet but they are getting there. There has been a 60% increase in the number of Indian women sitting for the Graduate Management Admission Test (GMAT) since 2007.

The number of women taking the exam rose from 4,863 in 2007 to 7,812 in 2012. Globally, 43% of the test takers in 2012 were women compared to 39% in 2008.

Significantly, after a dip in 2011, the GMAT—accepted by around 5,400 graduate business and management programmes worldwide — has gained in popularity again in India. In 2011, 25,394 students

TESTING TIMES FOR WOMEN

took the exam which went up to 30,213 in 2012. India ranked third after the United States and China in the number of students opting for the exam. India accounted for 10.5% of those taking the exams globally in 2012.

The percentage of Indian women has correspondingly increased from 22.6% to 25.9% of test takers according to Graduate Management Admission Council (GMAC) research based on testing year 2012. Globally, the percentage of women taking the exams hit 43% in 2012 — a record for the third straight year. This is up from 39% in 2008.

And unlike India, where women constitute one-fourth of the test takers, they made up the majority in China, Taiwan, Thailand, Vietnam and Russia. GMAC data suggests that GMAT testing in the US picked up slightly in 2012 after falling from recessionary highs recorded in 2009.

The percentage of US test takers sending their scores to US schools remains a world-leading 98%. The US remains the top score-sending destination, with 76% of score reports sent to the country.

With 58,196 candidates in 2012, the Chinese are the second-largest citizen group to take the test after Americans and represent 20% of global testing. Indians, with 30,213 taking the test in 2012, are the third-largest citizen group.

Indian test takers are sending a higher percentage of scores to programmes in India, the UK, Singapore, France and Canada.

Not surprisingly, Europe has seen a dip in popularity. In 2012, 24,847 European citizens sat for the GMAT in 2012, up 26% from 2008, and they sent more than 60% of their scores to programmes in Europe.

March 11

Online entrance test for IITs...

ONLINE ENTRANCE TEST FOR IITs, OTHERS BY 2014?

Charu Sudan Kasturi

charu.kasturi@hindustantimes.com

NEW DELHI: Students seeking admission to IITs and all other central engineering schools may soon have to switch from pens and pencils to a computer mouse under a move to completely computerise key centrally conducted entrance tests.

The human resource development (HRD) ministry and the Central Board of Secondary Education are scouting for a firm to audit their preparedness for the switch, top government officials confirmed to HT.

The move is backed by HRD minister MM Pallam Raju.

If the audit concludes that the board and government are ready, the 100% computerised avatar could be rolled out as early as 2014.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

But a computerised test for the about 15,00,000 students who seek admission to the IITs, National Institutes of Technology (NITs) and other central engineering schools each year is unlikely to be easy.

The JEE (Main) — earlier called the All India Engineering Entrance Examination — which picks students to the NITs and other central schools and shortlists 150,000 top students for a second round test to select students for the IITs — is currently conducted mostly in the pencil-paper format. But in 2012, the CBSE started offering a computerised version for a few students at select centres, spread over a few days.

"Now we want to check whether we are ready to take the big leap towards dumping the pencil-paper format completely," a senior CBSE official said.

The audit will check 300 identified centres across 28 Indian cities and Singapore, Kathmandu and Colombo, where computerised tests are planned. At these centres, auditors will check the infrastructure — CCTV surveillance, power backup, 20% additional desktops, standby servers, air-conditioning and access control measures.

Auditors will evaluate software security and whether rigorous security arrangements to prevent question paper leaks are in place. The plan is to upload question papers on a central server and then issue passwords for access to the server to officials in charge of centres through a text message in the morning of the examination.

IN 2012, THE CBSE STARTED OFFERING A COMPUTERISED VERSION FOR AT SELECT CENTRES

Skeletons tumble out of IIT-KGP

Visitor, PMO were kept in the dark about professors' involvement in CoalNet scam

DEEPAK KUMAR JHA ■
NEW DELHI

More skeletons are tumbling out of IIT Kharagpur's cupboard. Two of the three IIT professors indicted in the CoalNet scam were appointed to key posts in the premier engineering institute by keeping the Visitor (President of India) in the dark about the CBI having found them guilty in the ₹39-crore scam.

The revelation comes even as the Council of IITs and the HRD Ministry have failed to initiate action against the three IIT professors despite the Central Vigilance Commission (CVC) directing the initiation of penalty proceedings against them over a fortnight back.
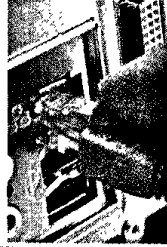
In the wake of the CVC order, an emergency Board of

COVER-UP

■ The CVC ordered penalty proceedings against three professors — which could include dismissal from service — on February 19, 2013

■ The penalty proceedings against the trio have been kept in abeyance till the Board of Governors meeting of IIT-Kharagpur on March 23

■ IIT-KGP Prof PP Chakraborty has resigned from his current post of Dean, protesting against the MHRD and CVC's direction

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Governors meeting of IIT-Kharagpur has been called on March 23. The penalty proceedings against the trio have been kept in abeyance till then.

In the meantime, Director-select of IIT-KGP Prof PP Chakraborty — one of the three accused in the CoalNet scam — has resigned from his current post of Dean, protesting against the MHRD and CVC's direction.

Prof Chakraborty and two others — IIT Patna Director Prof AK Bhowmick and Prof RN Banerjee — have been indicted in the 2004 CoalNet scam. As first reported by *The*

Pioneer, the CVC ordered penalty proceedings — which could include dismissal from service — on February 19, 2013.

The search-cum-selection committee, headed by then HRD Minister Kapil Sibal, had in July 2012 selected Chakraborty as Director-Select of the institute. The mandatory vigilance clearance wasn't obtained by the committee for his selection and CVO IIT Kharagpur Prof BK Mathur also did not seek the vigilance certificate from the CVC for Prof Chakraborty.

To add to it, two Board of Governors (BoG) meetings went

ahead with rejecting the CBI report against the professors.

Chakraborty's appointment as full-time Director was, however, in abeyance after MHRD took cognisance of the CBI case against him in August 2012 and the matter was referred to CVC for its advice.

"The matter has not been placed before the Visitor (President Pranab Mukherjee) till now," an HRD Ministry official said.

With regard to Prof AK Bhowmick, RTI queries have revealed gross irregularities committed by the IIT-KGP administration to facilitate his appointment as Director, IIT-Patna.

Bhowmick's appointment was cleared by the current IIT-KGP Officiating Director Prof SK Som in his capacity as the CVO of the institute from April 2003 to September 13, 2009. In September 2007, the CBI had submitted the report to the then Director, IIT-Kharagpur Prof Damodar Acharya, whose term ended in September 2012.

IIT Council approved Bhowmick for Director, IIT-

Patna in January 2009 and in May 2009 the MHRD issued his appointment letter after approval from the then Visitor (President Pratibha Devisingh Patil). The the pending CBI recommendation for action against Bhowmick was suppressed by the IIT CVO in taking the President's approval. Neither the Visitor nor the PMO was informed about his involvement in the CoalNet scam.

"It was the duty of the then IIT-KGP CVO (Prof SK Som) to report the pending vigilance matter against Bhowmick to MHRD but he did not do so. Since there was no vigilance case officially reported by IIT to the Ministry against Prof Bhowmick, MHRD did not seek vigilance clearance from CVC. Hence technically the Visitor, MHRD and PMO were kept in the dark on this matter," a top HRD official pointed out.

When contacted on the issue Prof Som refused to comment. He, however, confirmed the receipt of the CVC's letter ordering action against the three professors.

Skeletons...

"Yes, we have received the CVC letter this week but nothing is decided so far officially as to what action is to be taken against the indicted professors which include the Director-Select. I cannot comment anything further at this stage, but campus is shocked due to this controversy," Prof Som told The Pioneer over the phone. According to an IIT statement in this regard: "The charges against certain existing and former faculty members of IIT-Kharagpur require quick resolution while respecting all voices, regulatory bodies and keeping in mind the strategically important role that IIT-Kharagpur has as the first and leading IIT. IIT-Kharagpur remains committed to expeditiously resolving all issues with its stakeholders, regulatory bodies and Government of India."

Construction work slow at 8 new IIT campuses: HRD Panel

Press Trust of India

New Delhi, March 10

Students of eight new IITs will have to wait longer to shift to new campuses as none of them has made "real" progress despite the June deadline.

Flagging off this issue, a Parliamentary panel on HRD has pressed for "expediting" the work to help students to avail themselves of the best facilities to pursue their studies.

Observing that "real construction work is yet to start", the Parliamentary standing committee noted that only two of them – IIT Bhubaneswar and IIT Mandi – have seen some progress in the construction work of the main campus.

In case of IIT Patna and IIT Hyderabad, the panel said only the boundary wall has been completed.

The new IITs at Bhubaneswar, Mandi, Gandhinagar, Indore, Hyderabad, Patna, Ropar and Rajasthan, set up in 2008-09 and 2009-10 and run-

▶*HRD Ministry has said all the IITs have been advised to put in place a mechanism for rigorous monitoring of the project.*

ning from temporary facilities, were given a time-line of June 2013 to have their new campuses ready.

"The new campuses should be made operational as soon as possible," it said, adding, one must not forget that IITs are premier institutes attracting the best talents from across the country.

In the action taken report, HRD Ministry has said all the IITs have been advised to put in place a mechanism for rigorous monitoring of the project, with video conferencing being organised with the directors.

The committee, similarly, was also constrained to observe that all the five Indian Institute of Science Education and Research (IISERs) set up

in the initial years of the 11th Plan Period are yet to get their new campuses.

For advanced studies and research in the frontier areas of science, IISERs have to set up state-of-the-art buildings, fully equipped labs and rich libraries so as to enable students in pursuing various advanced courses.

"The committee accordingly recommends that IISERs need to be made fully functional in the real sense. Required funds should be provided as and when there is a need. It is high time all of them move to their campuses at the earliest," it said.

The five IISERs have been set up in Kolkata, Pune, Mohali, Bhopal and Thiruvananthapuram.

RASTRIYA SAHARA ND 11/03/2013 P-13

'Construction work slow on 8 new IIT campuses'

NEW DELHI, PTI: Students of eight new IITs will have to wait longer to shift to new campuses as none of them has made real progress despite the June deadline.

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आठ नए आईआईटी में निर्माण कार्य धीमा

नई दिल्ली (एजेंसियां)। छात्रों को आठ नए आईआईटी परिसरों में पठन-पाठन के लिए कुछ और इंतजार करना पड़ेगा। जून की समय सीमा तय होने के बावजूद इनमें से किसी में ठीक ढंग से काम आगे नहीं बढ़ रहा है।

मानव संसाधन विकास मंत्रालय से जुड़ी संसद की एक समिति ने इन विषय को रेखांकित करते हुए इस कार्य को तेजी से आगे बढ़ाने पर जोर दिया ताकि छात्रों को सर्वश्रेष्ठ सुविधाओं के साथ पठन-पाठन में मदद मिले। वास्तविक निर्माण कार्य के अभी ठीक तरह से शुरू नहीं होने का उल्लेख करते हुए संसद की स्थायी समिति ने कहा कि केवल दो आईआईटी में मुख्य परिसर में निर्माण कार्य में कुछ प्रगति दर्ज की गई है जिनमें आईआईटी भुवनेश्वर और आईआईटी मंडी शामिल हैं। समिति ने कहा कि आईआईटी पटना और आईआईटी हैदराबाद के मामले में केवल चहारदीवारी का निर्माण पूरा किया जा सका है।

भुवनेश्वर, मंडी, गांधीनगर, इंदौर, हैदराबाद, पटना, रोपड़ और राजस्थान स्थित नए आईआईटी की स्थापना 2008-09 और 2009-10 में हुई और ये अस्थायी शिविर में चल रहे हैं। इन्हें स्थायी परिसर तैयार करने

■ मंत्रालय से जुड़ी संसदीय समिति ने जताई चिंता
■ स्थायी परिसर तैयार करने के लिए जून 2013 तक का दिया गया है समय

के लिए जून 2013 तक का समय दिया गया है। समिति ने कहा, ' नए परिसरों में जल्द से जल्द कामकाज शुरू किया जाना चाहिए।' समिति ने यह भी कहा कि किसी को यह नहीं भूलना चाहिए कि आईआईटी उत्कृष्ट शिक्षण संस्थान हैं जहां देश भर से सर्वश्रेष्ठ प्रतिभाएं आती हैं। कार्रवाई रिपोर्ट

(एटीआर) में मानव संसाधन विकास मंत्रालय ने कहा कि इन आईआईटी को परियोजना का गहन निगरानी तंत्र बनाने का सुझाव दिया गया है जिसमें निदेशकों के साथ वीडियो कांफ्रेंसिंग भी हो सके।

समिति ने इस बात का भी उल्लेख किया कि 11वीं पंचवर्षीय योजना के प्रारंभ में पांच भारतीय विज्ञान शिक्षा एवं शोध संस्थान (आईआईएसईआर) स्थापित किए गए लेकिन इनके नए परिसर स्थापित नहीं किए जा सके हैं। विज्ञान के क्षेत्र में अत्याधुनिक शिक्षा एवं शोध के लिए आईआईएसईआर को सुविधा सम्पन्न प्रयोगशालाओं और उन्नत पुस्तकालय से लैस इमारत का निर्माण करना था ताकि छात्रों को उच्च शिक्षा प्राप्त करने में मदद मिले सके। समिति ने कहा, ' आईआईएसईआर को सही अर्थों में पूरी तरह से परिचालन में लाया जा सके। समुचित कोष जब और जहां जरूरत होगी, उपलब्ध कराया जाएगा।'
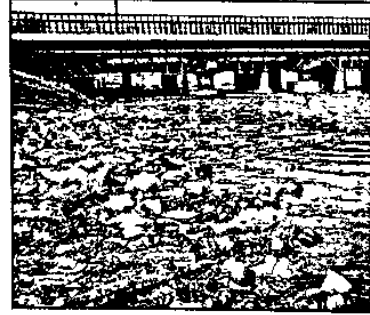
आइआइटी रुड़की ने पेश किया यमुना की सफाई का खाका 6

◆ मैली यमुना मामले में सुप्रीम कोर्ट में सुनवाई आज

माला दीक्षित, नई दिल्ली

यमुना को बचाने के लिए हजारों लोग यमुना मुक्ति यात्रा लेकर निकल पड़े है। उधर, आइआइटी रुड़की ने भी दम तोड़ती यमुना को जीवनदान देने के लिए एक नया खाका पेश किया है। आइआइटी ने नदी के बराबर में एक नाला बनाने, ओखला और वजीराबाद बैराज के बीच एक और बैराज बनाने और नदी के जल को साफ करने की योजना दी है। हालांकि नदी में न्यूनतम प्रवाह लाने के लिए पानी कहां से आएगा, ये सवाल अभी भी अपनी जगह कायम है। सुप्रीम कोर्ट इस मामले में सोमवार को सुनवाई करेगा।

मालूम हो कि हजारों करोड़ खर्च होने के बाद भी यमुना की हालत बदतर होती देख सुप्रीम कोर्ट ने यमुना को साफ करने के लिए आइआइटी रुड़की व आइआइटी दिल्ली के निदेशकों से योजना बनाने को कहा था। सुप्रीम कोर्ट 1994 से इस मामले की सुनवाई कर रहा है। इस संबंध में सरकार ने एक टेक्निकल सब कमेटी गठित की है। इस कमेटी की गत एक फरवरी को बैठक हुई थी। कमेटी के संयोजक केंद्रीय प्रदूषण नियंत्रण बोर्ड (सीपीसीबी) के सदस्य सचिव हैं। बैठक में आइआइटी रुड़की की ओर से प्रोफेसर डॉ. जेड अहमद ने एक प्रेजेंटेशन दिया। नदी को प्रदूषण मुक्त करने का जो खाका आइआइटी रुड़की ने दिया है, उसमें वजीराबाद से ओखला बैराज तक नदी के साथ-साथ किनारे दाहिने तट पर एक नाला बनाए जाने का प्रस्ताव है। यह नाला आगरा कैनाल से जोड़ा जाएगा। लेकिन एक दशक से सुप्रीम कोर्ट में यमुना प्रदूषण पर सीपीसीबी की पैरवी कर रहे विजय पंजवानी योजना को अधूरा बताते

आइटीओ पर यमुना में डाला जा रहा कचरा।

है। उनका कहना है कि सिर्फ दाहिने तट यानी पश्चिमी छोर पर नाला बनाने से समस्या हल नहीं होगी। बायें तट यानी पूर्वी छोर का क्या होगा। वहां भी नाला बनना चाहिए तभी पूरी नदी प्रदूषण मुक्त होगी।

आइआइटी की ओर से पेश दूसरा बिंदु कहता है कि नदी बहाव के कुछ हिस्से को हिंडन कट से आगरा कैनाल की ओर मोड़ दिया जाएगा। इसके लिए उपयुक्त स्ट्क्चर का निर्माण करना होगा। हिंडन कट का बाकी बचा रिवर फ्लो (बहाव) चिल्ला पर शाहदरा नाले की ओर मोड़ दिया जाएगा। योजना का चौथा बिंदु वजीराबाद और ओखला बैराज के बीच एक नया बैराज बनाए जाने की बात करता है। इसमें मानसून के बाद के पानी को एकत्र किया जाएगा। पांचवां बिंदु चैनलाइजेशन आफ रिवर फ्रंट डेवलेपमेंट की बात करता है। आइआइटी रुड़की का कहना है कि इससे यमुना के जल में सुधार आएगा और वह साफ होगा। इस बैठक में दिल्ली जलबोर्ड ने करीब पांच सौ करोड़ की लागत से बनाए गये इंटरसेप्टर की स्थिति बताई और आइआइटी से कहा कि वह इस इंटरसेप्टर का नये सिरे से आकलन करे। पंजवानी का कहना है कि इतना पैसा खर्च हो गया जबकि यह इंटरसेप्टर सिर्फ एक तिहाई गंदे पानी को ही साफ करेगा।
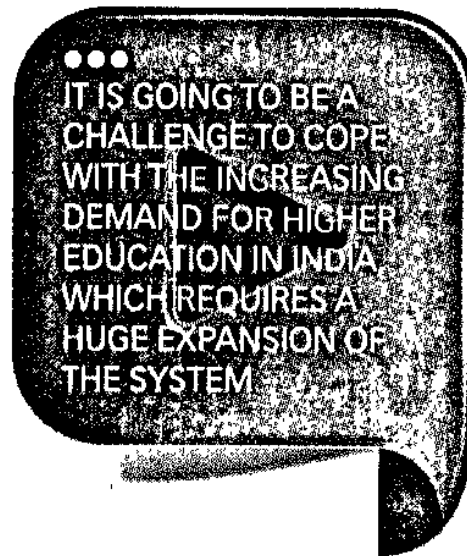
Why is India nowhere in the top-100 of the Times Higher Education World Reputation Rankings 2013? *Education Times* speaks to **Phil Baty**, editor, THE Rankings, to find out

Reputation at stake

Harvard University, Massachusetts Institute of Technology and University of Cambridge, bags the top three positions in this year's Times Higher Education World Reputation Rankings. They are followed by University of Oxford, University of California, Berkeley and Stanford University. While the highest-ranking university outside the UK and the US is University of Tokyo (9), Israel and Turkey, with one institution each, represent the Middle East.

Of the BRIC countries (Brazil, Russia, India and China), India is the only country which does not have a representative in the world's top 100 universities. Phil Baty, editor, THE rankings, points out that India has one of the most exciting and dynamic higher education systems on earth right now — but it is facing huge challenges in terms of meeting growing demand for higher education at a scale that is almost incomprehensible from a Western perspective. At the same time, it is also struggling to maintain quality.

However, this is the first time that THE magazine, UK, has also released an India top-10 list — the Times High-

> IT IS GOING TO BE A CHALLENGE TO COPE WITH THE INCREASING DEMAND FOR HIGHER EDUCATION IN INDIA WHICH REQUIRES A HUGE EXPANSION OF THE SYSTEM

er Education India Reputation Rankings — to provide insight as to how far off-the-pace India is in terms of global academic prestige, and to help provide a sense of the pecking order inside India. The Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore (IISc), takes the number one position in India. Just below it are the Indian Institute of Technology Bombay in second, All India

Institute of Medical Sciences in third, IIT Kanpur in fourth and IIT Delhi in fifth. The University of Delhi, in the sixth place, is the first fully fledged comprehensive university on the list.

The way the survey works, adds Baty, one would expect the larger, multi-disciplinary institutions to do better, as they have a larger footprint across many more disciplines. So the fact that it is the smaller, specialist institutions that are at the top of the rankings in India is significant.

As to challenges for India, Baty reiterates that there is going to be a challenge to both cope with the increasing demand for higher education in India, which requires a huge expansion of the system, while also maintaining quality.

The Times Higher Education World University Rankings 2012-2013 is powered by Thomson Reuters and a university's performance is judged across teaching, research, knowledge transfer and international outlook. For full results, visit *www.timeshighereducation.co.uk/world-university-rankings*

Time to focus on employability

Education sector must be deregulated

by Suresh K. Chadha

A HEART-WARMING sight in any part of India is a stream of children in their school uniforms, going their way each morning with their bags and books. The conviction and commitment of parents is the force propelling India out of its relative backwardness. We had high hopes from education that it will maximise human potential, facilitate a vibrant democracy in which we have an informed electorate, hone the skills, capabilities and attitudes that will help our economy remain prosperous and economically competitive, and nurture an atmosphere that can make people see things differently. Swedish Steel Co 15 years ago quoted Rs 30 crore for selling technology to SAIL, when the IIT-Madras and the IIS-Bangalore analysed its advantages. Their elementary analysis revealed that technology was not up to the mark. The price was dropped to Rs. 15 crore — such is the power of education.

In 1947, there were 25 universities, 700 colleges and around 1,05,000 students, but now there are more than 575 universities, 33000 ordinary colleges, 3400 engineering colleges and more than 16 million students enrolled. Education is a fundamental right, but the quality of education needs to be improved as this is the best way the progress of a country can be ensured. Unfortunately, education has lost its edge in India, with little innovation, lack of relevance and an ill-devised regulatory framework. Indian college education generally induces unacceptable skills, leading to a large mass of unemployable job-seekers coupled with a shortage of skilled people. The problem is that the kind of education students get does not measure up to what is required to make them employable. Jobs require more than just a functional level of literacy.

We could achieve enormously if higher education provided indepth knowledge and skills. Annually, India produces more than eight times the number of undergraduates than the figure in the case of the US. But 60 per cent are not well trained and as a result, over 50 per cent of the engineering students are unfit for employment. The regulator must recognise that education needs to keep up with the demand for skills, and also that the demand for a certain type of expertise changes with the time. In India, more than 3, 00,000 people every year go overseas to pursue higher and technical education. This results in foreign outflow of more than Rs. 15 billion per year. This is sufficient to build more than 40 IIMs.

The performance of teachers and their accountability cannot be ignored if education has to be something to which children relate and their guardians aspire for. It is imperative to impart domain knowledge and relevant skills through teaching methods, pedagogical tools, industry and alumni interface, etc. The faculty is the cutting edge of their domain knowledge and the curriculum is in sync with the business requirements. Experts say that one of the reasons for Indian educational institutions not getting quality teachers is the government's old mindset of treating everybody alike in terms of salaries, research funding and other factors. China has introduced a star system under which leading academics are paid higher salaries and research funding. That's sensible as getting the best researchers is the only way pockets of excellence can emerge.

Teaching is an art, a skill, a story telling ability, an ability to hold the audience's attention for an extended period of time, ensure the understanding of the concepts and encourage intellectual participation of students, field questions satisfactorily and raise the quality of learners in terms of their capability to disseminate knowledge through presentations, projects, debates and assignments. The IITs and the IIMs could not have been built without the lifelong commitment of its teachers.

India will be stuck with millions of middle-aged bewildered technicians who are unable to respond when the needs of the labour market change. The shortage is not of people in general but of people lacking skills. Therefore, a relatively small part of the population has joined the growth process and reaped its benefits while the excluded majority watches from the margins in despair. This is a recipe for not only the loss of economic competitiveness but also social seclusion and criminality. It is important to ensure that youngsters acquire vocational skills to become employable. The right talent does not suffer from lack of opportunities. The need of the hour is to promote vocational education on the pattern of China,

> ## The education policy has to be demand-driven to fulfil the promises made. If India makes the necessary investments in training and infrastructure development, it will fuel economic growth in a dramatic manner.

which has more than five lakh vocational schools to provide the needed training to job-seekers.

The education policy has to be demand-driven to fulfil the promises made. If India makes the necessary investments in training and infrastructure development, it will fuel economic growth in a dramatic manner. The ultimate resource is the country's people, especially the skilled youngsters.

If India wants to tackle its unemployment problem and get more people off agriculture (which is the only way to increase productivity and wages), the solution has to come from a stimulated manufacturing sector. The textile and clothing sector continues to provide the highest quantum of direct and indirect employment, but we need to create enough jobs in other sectors like science and technology, green technologies, leather, food processing, tourism, medical tourism, gems and jewellery, pharmaceuticals, bio-technology, automobiles and auto-components, etc.

There is also need to convert the country's demographic challenge into an opportunity by nurturing an entrepreneurship culture with right policies and by facilitating cost-effective access to capital through vibrant markets. Fiscal incentives to angel investors would help attract further investments and support fragile start-ups. The government is spending huge amounts on Bharat Nirman, MNREGA and other such schemes, but these have some side-effects in the form of higher inflation. These schemes have a negative impact on productivity through rising wages without a commensurate increase in the output.

We must keep in mind that India not only lives in its villages but is also born, grown up, works and grows old in its villages. And it is these villages that require a huge investment for providing basic education in an effective manner. Once education spreads in a big way in village India — Bharat — it will push up growth faster than ever experienced.

The focus, however, must be on new economy that requires high-tech skills and open mindedness for lifelong learning to keep up with the constantly evolving demands of the information age we live in. According to Narayana Murthy, we have not fully liberalised our education sector even after two decades of economic reforms. The need of the hour is to deregulate learning to bring about a revolution in this sector.■

The writer is a senior professor at the University Business School, Panjab University, Chandigarh.

AICTE issues showcause notice to IIPM

KALPANA PATHAK
Mumbai, 10 March

The All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) has issued a showcause notice to the Indian Institute of Planning and Management (IIPM), asking it why the technical education regulator shouldn't initiate action against it.

The UGC had in February issued a public notice informing students and the public at large "...Indian Institute of Planning and Management is not a university within the meaning of Section 2(f) of the UGC Act 1956. Further as per section 22 of the UGC Act 1956, IIPM does not have the right of conferring or granting degrees as .specific of conferring or granting degrees by the UGC under Section 22 (3) of the UGC Act."

"Against the backdrop of what happened recently, we have served a showcause notice to IIPM, asking them to explain their stand and also why action shouldn't be taken against them," said Shankar S. Mantha, chairman, AICTE.

Funding for Indian students

Vatsala Shrangi/TNN

University College Dublin (UCD), Ireland, in a new funding initiative has announced a scholarship for students from India. The 250,000-euro scholarship funding is for students of both postgraduate and UG programmes commencing in September 2013. Also, the university has launched two new Masters level courses in petroleum geosciences and actuarial sciences.

According to Gerald Byrne, vice-president and college principal, UCD College of Engineering and Architecture, "We want to create awareness about the possibilities for Indian students in Dublin in the areas of science, technology and engineering. Also, we are developing a number of new projects with key universities in India. With the funding initiative we want to help more students to come and study here and have a new learning experience. Each scholarship will also have a stipend to cover the living expenses."

Amongst the scholarships announced are two full tuition scholarships at the graduate level, with five 50% tuition scholarships for taught Masters programmes and over 50 scholarships of 2,000 euros. At undergraduate level the university is offering scholarships valued between 50% of the full tuition fee and 2,500 euros.

Besides, the university has three fully-funded government of Ireland scholarships for graduate students from India, for the academic year 2013-2014. Students must have gained a place on a one-year taught Masters programme to be eligible for these scholarships.

The two new courses have been launched as per the growing industry demands.

"The skill-sets required by companies these days have changed. Today, companies are looking for students having broad skill-sets with fundamental understanding of one discipline on the one hand and a high level of creativity on the other. New age entrepreneurs must have innovative capabilities along with business acumen to sustain globally. The courses are global professions, which will offer engagement to students in emerging industries," adds Byrne. Students can apply for these scholarships till April 30. For more information visit *www.ucd.ie/international*

PANEL UNHAPPY WITH PACE OF IIT-H WORK

DC CORRESPONDENT
HYDERABAD, MARCH 10

The Parliamentary Standing Committee on human resource development has expressed dismay over the slow progress of the construction of the permanent campus for the Indian Institute of Technology, Hyderabad in Medak.

Members of the panel observed that only the boundary wall had been completed so far. UPA chairperson Sonia Gandhi had laid the foundation stone for the permanent campus just ahead of the general elections in 2009.

IIT-H was among the eight new IITs that the Centre set up in 2008. Despite the state government allotting over 500 acres for the permanent campus at Kandi village, Medak district, in 2008, construction is yet to take off in full swing.

IIT-Hyderabad has been operating from its temporary campus at the Ordnance Factory in Medak since the 2008-09 academic year, the first batch of 120 B.Tech students having finished their four-year course in 2012 from there.

Union HRD minister M.M. Pallam Raju, who recently laid the foundation stone for the academic block on the permanent campus, said that work would be expedited to complete the first phase of the campus by the 2014-15 academic year.

The Parliamentary panel pressed for speeding up work to make available the best facilities for the students, adding that the IITs were premier institutes attracting the best talent nationwide.

COVER STORY

DELHI

KOTA

KOLKATA

MUMBAI

HYDERABAD

THE ROAD TO IIT

Securing admission at an Indian Institute of Technology is no mean feat. **Sonali Acharjee** looks at the top hubs of the coaching industry and how they help students achieve their dreams

Every year lakhs of students aspire to clear the tough Joint Entrance Exam (JEE). For some, preparations start almost six years before the date of the exam. The process of training for the exam starts from finding the right coaching institute to completing 24 hours of extra study time each week. Last year's All-India JEE topper, Arpit Aggarwal, claimed to have not attended a social gathering for over two years, so firm was his resolve to focus only on the examination ahead.

"I began attending coaching classes when I was in Class V. Since then I have attended three different institutes in two different cities. My father wanted me to be taught by the best. It was a struggle to cope with school examinations and prepare for JEE at the same time. I feel quite nervous now that the time to sit for the exam is so near. But taking extra coaching has definitely paid off. The format of the exam is like a second nature to me," says Mayank Srinivas, 17, from Delhi.

Be it the small town of Kota which is home to the largest concentration of engineering training institutes in the country or the burgeoning coaching scene in Hyderabad, students are certainly spoilt for choice when it comes to the city, institute, package and time frame of their training. With around 10,000 seats available at the 16 IIT's around the country, the competition is certainly fierce. With endless hours of studies, expert consultations, secret tips and hope in their minds, students gear up to tackle the exam any way that they can.