Newspaper Clips

March 31, 2012

ASIAN AGE ND
31/03/2012 P-4

IIT-DELHI HAS GLOBAL RANK OF 218, RS TOLD

New Delhi, March 30: Indian Institute of Technology-Delhi is the country's highest ranking institution in world with a global rank of 218, the Rajya Sabha was informed Friday.

Minister of state for HRD D. Purandeswari said during Question Hour that as per the Quacquarelli Symonds global system of ranking of higher education institutions for 2011, IIT-Delhi is the overall highest ranking institution in India at serial number 218.

"As per the Times Higher Education World University Rankings for 2011, IIT-Bombay is the highest ranked institution at serial 317, while the Academic Ranking of World Universities has ranked Indian Institute of Science, Bengaluru at serial 321," she said. — *PTI*

Navbharat Times ND 31/03/2012 p-1

IIT - दिल्ली देश का टॉप इंस्टिट्यूट

पीटीआई ॥ नई दिल्ली

दिल्ली का इंडियन इंस्टिट्यूट ऑफ टेक्नॉलजी (आईआईटी) भारत का सबसे बेहतरीन कॉलेज है। दुनिया के बेस्ट कॉलेजों में इसका 218वां नंबर है।

दुनिया में हायर एजुकेशन इंस्टिट्यूट्स की रैंकिंग करने वाली संस्था क्वैक्यूरेली साइमंड्स (क्यूएस) ग्लोबल सिस्टम की रिपोर्ट के हवाले से मानव संसाधन विकास राज्य मंत्री डी. पुरंदेश्वरी ने शुक्रवार को राज्यसभा में यह जानकारी दी। रिपोर्ट के मुताबिक, आईआईटी दिल्ली 2011 में देश का ओवरऑल हाइएस्ट रैंकिंग इंस्टिट्यूशन रहा। कंप्यूटर साइंस और आईटी के लिहाज से आईआईटी दिल्ली 43वें नंबर पर जबकि आईआईटी मुंबई 50वें नंबर पर रहा। सिविल और स्ट्रक्चरल इंजीनियरिंग के फील्ड में आईआईटी दिल्ली का 43वां, आईआईटी मुंबई का 30वां और आईआईटी कानपुर का 38वां नंबर है।

218 वां

बेस्ट कॉलेज है दुनिया का आईआईटी-दिल्ली

एक अन्य रैंकिंग प्रणाली, टाइम्स हायर एजुकेशन वर्ल्ड यूनिवर्सिटी रैंकिंग के मुताबिक, आईआईटी-मुंबई देश की सर्वोच्च रैंकिंग वाली संस्था है जिसे 117वां रैंक दिया गया है।

Jansatta, ND 31/03/2012 P-9

आईआईटी-दिल्ली देश का सर्वोच्च शिक्षण संस्थान

नई दिल्ली, 30 मार्च (भाषा)। सरकार ने शुक्रवार को बताया कि दिल्ली स्थित भारतीय प्रौद्योगिकी संस्थान (आईआईटी) भारत की समग्र सर्वोच्च रैंक वाली संस्था है, जिसे वैश्विक शिक्षा संस्थानों में 218 वां रैंक दिया गया है।

मानव संसाधन विकास राज्य मंत्री डी पुरंदेश्वरी ने राज्यसभा में प्रश्नकाल के दौरान बताया कि रैंकिंग की जानी मानी वैश्विक प्रणाली क्वाकुआरेली साइमंड्स (क्यूएस) ने 2011 के लिए भारत की समग्र सर्वोच्च रैंक वाली संस्था आईआईटी दिल्ली को विश्व पैमाने पर 218 वां रैंक दिया है।

उन्होंने एक पूरक प्रश्न के उत्तर में बताया कि वर्ष 2011 के लिए एक अन्य रैंकिंग प्रणाली टाइम्स हायर एजुकेशन वर्ल्ड यूनिवर्सिटी रैंकिंग के अनुसार आईआईटी, मुंबई सर्वोच्च रैंक वाली संस्था है, जिसे 317 वां रैंक दिया गया है। एकेडमिकरैंकिंग ऑफ वर्ल्ड यूनिवर्सिटी ने बेंगलूर स्थित भारतीय विज्ञान संस्थान को 321 वां रैंक दिया है।

पुरंदेश्वरी ने अविनाश राय खन्ना के पूरक प्रश्न के उत्तर में बताया कि वर्ष 2011 की क्यूएस इंजीनियरिंग एवं प्रौद्योगिकी रैंकिंग के अनुसार कंप्यूटर विज्ञान एवं सूचना प्रौद्योगिकी में भारतीय प्रौद्योगिकी संस्थान, मुंबई का रैंक 43 है, भारतीय प्रौद्योगिकी संस्थान दिल्ली का रैंक 50 वां है, भारतीय प्रौद्योगिकी संस्थान कानपुर का रैंक 59 वां है और भारतीय प्रौद्योगिकी संस्थान, मद्रास का कंप्यूटर विज्ञान एवं सूचना प्रौद्योगिकी में 60वें रैंक पर है।

पुरंदेश्वरी ने बताया कि इन विभिन्न अंतरराष्ट्रीय रैंकिंग प्रणालियों में उच्चतर शिक्षा संस्थाओं को रैंक देने के लिए विभिन्न मूल्यों, संकेतकों और मानकों का प्रयोग किया जाता है। इन मानकों को न तो वैश्विक स्तर पर स्वीकार किया गया है और न ही इन्हें मान्यता प्रदान की गई है। उन्होंने कहा कि सरकार देश में शैक्षिक रूप से पिछड़े 374 ब्लॉकों में उच्च शिक्षा संस्थानों की स्थापना करने पर विचार कर रही है। उन्होंने कहा कि हर उस राज्य में केंद्रीय विश्वविद्यालय स्थापित करने की जरूरत है जहां केंद्रीय विश्वविद्यालय नहीं है।

पुरंदेश्वरी ने कहा कि तकनीकी फैकल्टी में मानव संसाधन की 35 से 40 फीसद की कमी है।

उन्होंने कहा कि यूपीए सरकार अपने वादे के अनुसार देश में विश्वस्तरीय 14 विश्वविद्यालयों की स्थापना करने के लिए प्रतिबद्ध है। इनकी स्थापना के लिए विधेयक पर विधि मंत्रालय में विचार जारी है।

उन्होंने बताया कि वर्तमान में देश में 43 केंद्रीय विश्वविद्यालय, 265 राज्य (सरकारी) विश्वविद्यालाय, 80 राज्य (निजी) विश्वविद्यालय हैं। डीम्ड विश्वविद्यालयों की संख्या 129 है। तमिलनाडु में सर्वाधिक 54 विश्वविद्यालय, उत्तरप्रदेश में 48 विश्वविद्यालय, महाराष्ट्र में 41 विश्वविद्यालय, आंध्रप्रदेश में 40 विश्वविद्यालय, राजस्थान में 39 विश्वविद्यालय और कर्नाटक में 35 विश्वविद्यालय हैं।

Indian Express ND 31-Mar-12 P26

DCNS inks MoU with IIT Bombay

'DCNS signed, through DCNS Research, a Memorandum of Understanding with the Indian Institute of Technology, Bombay, one of the top academic institutions dedicated to engineering and technology research in India. It has been signed by Dr Alain Bovis, Executive Director of DCNS Research, and Prof Shiva Prasad, Dean of Academic Programmes in IIT Bombay.

This MOU opens new cooperation avenues to DCNS in India for education and research programmes in naval defence and energy. Considering their respective domains of expertise, DCNS and IIT Bombay expect a rapid deployment of several projects. These will include:

- Sponsoring research and development programmes to be carried out jointly by IIT Bombay and DCNS Research teams.
- Sponsoring Indian student projects and fellowships at IIT Bombay
- Training DCNS personnel through "Continuing Education Programmes" conducted by IIT Bombay.

The research projects will be run at IIT Bombay premises with support of DCNS Research teams or in dedicated common facilities.

Thermo hydraulics, electrical engineering and material sciences are the most promising areas of scientific interaction between the two organisations.

Prof Prasad said, "There is a huge potential for cooperation in educational and R&D programmes in the maritime and energy domains between IIT Bombay and DCNS."

Dr Bovis said, "This new development emphasises our investments in long term in India. It also aims to accelerate technological progress in mutually beneficial areas by tying up with one of the top Indian research centres."

IIT Bombay's vision is to be a fountainhead of new ideas and of innovations. There has been an increasing

emphasis on research which is reflected in the increasing number of postgraduates, publications and patents.

DCNS Research, the corporate research centre of DCNS, works on computational fluid dynamics, computational structure dynamics, material science, information technology, acoustics and electromagnetism.

This agreement is strongly supported by the Science and Technology Department of the French embassy in India.

Financial Chronicle ND 31/03/2012 P-18

Harvard gets more selective

College accepts 2,032 students out of 34,302 — less than Ivy League rivals Yale, Princeton

JANET LORIN
Bloomberg

HARVARD College accepted 5.9 per cent of applicants for its freshman class, a record low and a smaller percentage than its Ivy League rivals Yale University and Princeton University.

Harvard offered seats to 2,032 students out of the 34,302 who applied for the 2012-2013 academic year, the school in Cambridge, Massachusetts, said in a statement. Yale accepted 6.8 per cent of applicants and Princeton 7.9 per cent, both also record lows, according to the schools.

Students have until May 1 to decide where to attend. Princeton and Harvard reinstated non-binding early acceptance programmes this year, where those who applied in November found out in December whether they had been accepted. The low admittance rates, a measure of the schools selectivity, may deter some students from applying, said Darby McHugh, college adviser at the Bronx High School of Science in New York.

It means we have to look beyond the Ivy League, McHugh said in an interview. Kids apply to Ivy League schools just because they're Ivy Leagues and it's not necessarily the right place for them. Princeton's acceptance rate was based on a total applicant pool of 26,664, the Princeton, New Jersey-based college said on its website. Yale, in New Haven, Connecticut, received 28,974 applications, the undergraduate admissions office said in an e- mailed statement.

Columbia University in New York admitted 7.4 per cent of the 31,851 students who applied, Jessica Marinaccio, dean of undergraduate admissions, said in an e-mailed statement.

Cornell University, in Ithaca, New York, offered spots to 16.2 per cent of its freshman applicants, according to an e-mailed statement. The University of Pennsylvania admitted 12.3 per cent, the Philadelphia-based school said March 28.

Columbia, Penn and Cornell also belong to the Ivy League, which groups eight colleges in the northeastern US Harvard offered spots to about 125 fewer students than last year, because the return of its early action programme makes predicting how many students will accept more difficult, said William Fitzsimmons, dean of admissions and financial aid.

The school offered places to 772 students in December. "One thing we cannot have is to be overcrowded in the Harvard Yard," Fitzsimmons said in a telephone interview. Harvard expects to use its waiting list, Fitzsimmons said. In some recent years as many as 200 students have been admitted in May and June, he said.

Harvard, the wealthiest school in higher education, had an endowment of $32 billion as of June 30. Alumni of Harvard College, the undergraduate division of Harvard University, include John Roberts, chief justice of the US Supreme Court, and Sheryl Sandberg, chief operating officer of Facebook.

Tuition, fees and room and board at Harvard for 2012-2013 will cost $54,496, up from $52,652 for the current academic year. Yale is the second richest school with an endowment of $19.4 billion.

Alumni include former presidents George HW Bush and George W Bush. Princeton counts first lady Michelle Obama and US Supreme Court Justices Samuel Alito Junior, Sonia Sotomayor and Elena Kagan among its alumni.

AFP

FATE SEALED: Harvard offered spots to about 125 fewer students than last year, because the return of its early action programme makes predicting how many students will accept more difficult

- New Jersey-based Princeton's acceptance rate was based on a total applicant pool of 26,664
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Harvard had an endowment of $32 billion as of June 30

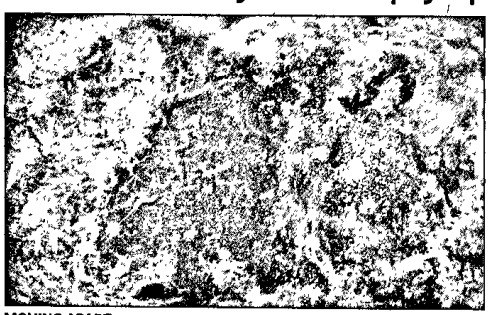
Times Of India ND 31/03/2012 P-23

Universe expanding, driven by 'dark energy'

Study Reaffirms Einstein Theory That Empty Space Creating A Repulsive Force Is Behind Growth

London: The universe is expanding at exactly the speed professor Albert Einstein has predicted — driven by "dark energy", says a new study.

For its study, a team of cosmologists from University of Portsmouth and the Max Planck Institute for Extraterrestrial Physics has examined the period between five and six billion years ago when the universe was half its present age and made measurements of extraordinary accuracy, within 1.7%. The findings support Einstein's general theory of relativity which predicts how fast galaxies, separated by large distances, should be moving toward one another and at what rate the structure of the universe should be growing. The conclusions are consistent with the concordance model of a universe that bloomed from the big bang some 13.7 billion years ago, the 'Daily Mail' reported.



MOVING APART

Team member Dr Rita Tojeiro said: "The results are the best measurement of an intergalactic distance ever made, which means cosmologists are closer than ever to understanding why the universe's expansion is accelerating. One of the great things about Einstein's theory of relativity is that it is testable. Our results support the theory and are fully consistent with the notion that constant vacuum energy — empty space creating a repulsive force — is driving the acceleration of the universe.

"These are profound statements that describe the physics of our universe at the most fundamental level. Critically, the results find no evidence that dark energy is simply an illusion stemming from our poor understanding of the laws of gravity— Einstein's theory has passed its most stringent test yet at extragalactic scales." PTI

Earth most likely was Moon's sole parent

Researchers have cast doubts over Moon's origin, challenging the widely held theory that a giant collision between Earth and a Mars-sized object – that scientists call Theia – gave birth to the moon 4.5 billion years ago. But an analysis of titanium from the Moon, Earth and meteorites, published by Junjun Zhang at the University of Chicago, and four co-authors indicates the Moon's material came from Earth alone. ANI

Deccan Herald ND 31.03.2012 P-4

'Govt to build 20 new design colleges soon'

NEW DELHI, DHNS: The government plans to build 20 new design colleges across the country as part of the 12th Five Year Plan, said Sam Pitroda, advisor to the Prime Minister on public information infrastructure and innovations.

At a plenary function on a five-day workshop on 'design innovation', Pitroda said the design schools will aim at creating professionals who can work towards resolving community issues.

"The government is building a billion dollar fund for innovations through science and technology, universities and banks. We have started two centres for innovation in Delhi and Baroda.

"Two national knowledge network to improve research collaboration will also be in place by the end of this year," said Pitroda.

"At least 2.5 lakh local panchayats will be roped in to lay optical fibres."

Though the Indian government innovates more than any other government, he said the challenge that the country faces is of affordability. "It is through design that India will be able to overcome several issues," he added.

US model not sustainable

World over the best brains are being used to solve the problems of the rich and nobody has the time to address the problems of the poor, said Pitroda to *DHNS*. The consumerist model of economic growth which India has adopted from U S will create more disparities between the rich and the poor of the country, he said. "Adopting the US economic growth model will not be sustainable, desirable and scalable," he added, while addressing a conference 'Country of my Dreams' organised by JNU's international youth forum on Friday. Pitroda emphasised on questioning the way things work. "Why do we need a car with 300 or so parts in it? Is that the right model? Is an auto rickshaw which is used in abundance the right model? Is there an alternative to oil? We need ask different questions."

STATE TO DROP MH-CET FOR NEW EXAM FROM 2013

Bhavya Dore

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MUMBAI: The state will do away with the Maharashtra Common Entrance Test (MH-CET) for engineering courses from next year and will instead adopt the newly announced Indian Science Engineering Eligibility Test (ISEET), state government officials said on Friday.

"The state has agreed to go for the ISEET. We have to decide on the weightage (for the different components of the test)," higher and technical education minister Rajesh Tope said. Maharashtra is among the first states to adopt the ISEET.

Tope attended a meeting organised by the Directorate of Technical Education on Friday with parents, teachers, educationists and students to get feedback on the new test.

ISEET, announced by the HRD ministry earlier this year, has been envisaged as a common national entrance test for engineering aspirants. The CBSE will conduct the two-part test, which will also take into account students' marks in the Class 12 board exam. States have the option of adopting the test as well as the weightage they would like to allot to each segment.

New engineering entrance exam to be held twice a year

NEW SYSTEM ISEET, which will replace the MH-CET from next year, will be binding on all engineering institutes in the state; committee to be formed to decide weightage to be given to board exam marks

HT Correspondent
htmetro@hindustantimes.com

MUMBAI: The Maharashtra government, on Friday, said it would set up a committee to decide the weightage to be given to board exam marks while adopting the Indian Science Engineering Eligibility Test (ISEET) for engineering admissions in the state.

ISEET, announced by the human resources development ministry earlier this year, has been envisaged as a common national entrance test for engineering aspirants. The state government has decided to do away with the Maharashtra state Common Entrance Test (MH-CET) for engineering courses from 2013.

The logic behind introducing a single test is to do away with the stress students undergo preparing for multiple tests, as well as the cost and time involved.

On Friday, CBSE chairperson Vineet Joshi made a presentation on the new test, while the director of the Indian Institute of Technology-Bombay (IIT-B) also spoke on it. Both clarified that the ISEET was a work in progress.

> **All engineering institutes, whether private or aided or deemed universities, will have to follow the ISEET from next year.**
> OFFICIAL,
> directorate of technical education

Joshi said the ISEET option is likely to be available twice a year — in April/May, and then later in the year for students who miss the first round.

"All engineering institutes, whether private or aided or deemed universities, will have to follow the ISEET from next year," said a Directorate of Technical Education official.

Various audience members spoke on the weightage combinations possible. The minister said that all of these would be taken into account and a committee would be formed to deliberate on the matter. The committee would then formulate a report within the next two months and place it before the public. The public would be invited to give their feedback after which, the policy would be finalised. The entire process is likely to take four months, Tope said. Some of the concerns expressed at the forum were regarding the board exam process itself; people wanted to know how transparent and error-free the process was.

ISEET: WHY AND HOW

- The state government has decided to do away with the MH-CET for engineering courses from 2013.
- The ISEET, which will replace the MH-CET, has been envisaged as a common national entrance test for engineering aspirants.
- The idea behind introducing a single test is to do away with the stress students undergo preparing for multiple tests, as well as the cost and time involved.
- The CBSE will conduct the two-part test, which will also take into account students' marks in the Class 12 board exam