

Newspaper Clips May 15, 2014

HT New Delhi

IITs will not have joint counselling this year as well

NEW DELHI: Like last year, there will be no joint counselling for admission to Indian Institutes of Technology(IIT) and the National Institutes of Technology(NIT). There had earlier been a proposal for joint counselling to minimise the number of vacant seats. However, it has now been decided that the seat allotment in IITs and NITs will be done independently as was done in the previous years. However experts feel the move could delay the process of admission to IITs whose session starts from mid July.

Raju grants 2nd term to IIT-Gandhinagar director

Written by [Anubhuti Vishnoi](#) | New Delhi | May 14, 2014 11:57 pm

<http://indianexpress.com/article/india/india-others/raju-grants-2nd-term-to-iit-gandhinagar-director/>

Days before a new dispensation comes to the Centre, HRD Minister Pallam Raju has granted a second consecutive term to IIT-Gandhinagar director Sudhir Jain. It is learnt that the move came earlier this week as recognition of Jain's "outstanding performance".

He is the third IIT director to get a second term of five years. While IIT-Bombay director Devang Khakhar had got a second term late last year, his IIT-Hyderabad counterpart U B Desai was granted another term earlier this year.

With Raju having approved Jain's appointment, the same will be referred to President Pranab Mukherjee, who is the Visitor to all IITs. Raju, who had been confined to his constituency Kakinada in Andhra Pradesh, reached New Delhi earlier this week to clear a backlog of files.

A policy decision taken by Raju in the last IIT Council meeting he chaired in September 2013 had cleared a possible second term to an incumbent IIT director without conducting the usual selection process if a committee assessed his performance as 'outstanding'. The proposal mooted by IIT directors argued that this will provide the institute greater stability and a director will be able to build the institute better.

An IIT director's first term performance is assessed on parameters such as building the institution as a global brand and research hub, introduction of new academic programmes, faculty retention and development, academic, administrative and financial reforms, revenue generation among others.

While directors of IITs in Bhubaneswar, Patna and Ropar will also complete their terms this year, the ministry has decided to not grant an automatic second term to them.

Working to get more foreign PG students: IIT-B director

Written by [Mihika Basu 2](#) | Mumbai | May 15, 2014 1:05 am

A great reputation among graduate employers and academicians and a relatively high volume of research could not ensure IIT Bombay a good rank at the recent QS Asian university rankings. Even Mumbai, Delhi and Calcutta University have been ranked high by employers.

But an assessment of the parameters on which they were evaluated shows that 'brand IIT' and Indian universities in general are handicapped in few indicators by its low levels of international faculty and international students.

An academician, who did not wish to be named, said that IITs are working towards bettering their quality each year and towards serving the nation, and that all the ranking parameters may not necessarily be coincident with what they are trying to achieve. "International faculty too won't happen anytime soon as there is a big difference in pay-scales," said the academician.

While IIT Bombay has been ranked in the top 12 by employers and 33 by academicians, its ranking among 300 institutes is poor when it comes to international faculty (201-plus), international students (201-plus) and outbound exchange students (201-plus). "I am happy to note that IIT Bombay is ranked high on important

parameters like academic and employer reputation. We are working towards increasing the number of postgraduate international students, a parameter for which our ranking is low,” said IIT Bombay director Devang Khakhar.

The other IITs too are placed high by employers—14 for IIT Delhi, 29 for IIT Kanpur, 24 for IIT Madras and 31 for IIT Kharagpur and 54 for IIT Roorkee. Other IITs among top 50 in academic reputation include IIT Delhi (39) and IIT Kanpur (49). In the overall rankings, only IIT Delhi (38) and IIT Bombay (41) have made it to the top 50 from India.

Another area where Indian institutes fail to make a mark is faculty-student ratio. None of them feature in the top 100 and most have made it to the 201-plus position. Mumbai University, which also enjoys a good reputation among employers and is ranked 43 in that criteria, is unable to do well in other indicators and has not submitted data on international faculty and students and exchange students.

“Internationalisation is important and we want to encourage more collaborative research with foreign universities, faculty exchange and memorandum of understandings. Even the number of international students has gone up over the years. But the facilities need to be increased further and an international students’ hostel is on the cards,” said Naresh Chandra, Mumbai University pro vice chancellor. The university has an overall ranking of 131, up from 140 in 2013.

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“Higher education today is global and universities have to compete globally. These lists affect the decisions of students, policy makers, research collaborators and funding agencies among others. We should have an inclination to participate. India’s policy decisions don’t suit international factors, but the weightage given to this parameter is less in the BRIC nations’ rankings as compared to the world rankings, yet India does not

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THE TIMES OF INDIA

AICTE's nod must for new technical colleges

Vishwas Kothari, TNN | May 15, 2014, 03:02 AM IST

PUNE: The All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) has written to the vice-chancellors of all the universities to ensure that no technical college, including management institute, is granted affiliation unless it has secured prior approval of the council for the academic year 2014-15.

The letter, issued on May 12 by AICTE chairman S S Mantha, comes in the wake of the Supreme Court interim orders on April 17 and May 9, restoring the AICTE's powers to approve new technical institutes or colleges for the year 2014-15.

"Prior approval of AICTE is compulsory and mandatory to conduct a technical course, including the management/MBA course, by an existing affiliated technical college and also new technical college which will require affiliation by a university for conduct of its technical courses/programmes for the year 2014-15," ruled a four-member apex court bench, headed by Chief Justice R M Lodha, on May 9. The court was hearing a writ petition by the Orissa Technical Colleges Association (OTCA).

The issue of which statutory body should grant approval to new technical colleges was being debated in the wake of the SC's judgment on April 25, 2013, in the Association of Managements of Private Colleges Vs AICTE case. The SC had ruled that the council's nod was not required for institutes affiliated to universities or for the grant of affiliation to new technical colleges by the universities.

The University Grants Commission (UGC), which regulates higher education in the country, had since come out with draft guidelines for new technical colleges/institutes. While these guidelines are pending final approval by the HRD ministry, the UGC had also declared a one-year moratorium on the sanction of new technical colleges in the fields of engineering and management.

However, after the apex court's interim order in the OTCA case, the AICTE promptly released a notification on May 10 laying down the schedule for submission of pleas for new technical institutions, variation of students intake and starting of new courses in existing institutions, closure of courses and change in name of institutes. The online pleas have to reach the council by May 18 and the approval process is expected to be completed by June 30.

A day after Mantha's letter, the director of technical education in Maharashtra also issued a notification putting out the online approval process schedule for new technical institutes/colleges in the state.

Mantha's letter states, "Technical education, as defined under AICTE Act, 1987, includes programmes of education, research and training in engineering and technology, architecture, town planning, management, pharmacy and applied arts and crafts. The council has been granting approval to technical institutes and college requiring affiliation from universities and technical boards."

Asian Age ND 15/05/2014 P-16

B- Schools moot fund for telcos

AGE CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI, MAY 14

To counter huge imports in the telecom sector, faculties of top Indian institutes IIT, IIM and IISc have asked the government to expeditiously operationalise Telecom Research and Development Fund (TRDF), Telecom Entrepreneurship Development fund (TEDF) and Telecom manufacturing promotion fund (TMPF). These funds are proposed to be around ₹17,500 crore.

"The government funding for telecom product development will create pull-through effect for overall electronics manufacturing ecosystem thereby resulting in reduced import-bill and bridging of trade deficit," said a letter signed by 35 professors belonging to Indian Institute of Technology, Indian Institute of Management and Indian Institute of Sciences.

It said that the government has garnered huge funding through spectrum auctions, telecom revenue-share and licensing charges. In future, the government is likely to earn

Give-back time

● IIT, IIM and IISc have asked the government to expeditiously operationalise Telecom Research and Development Fund, Telecom Entrepreneurship Development Fund and Telecom Manufacturing Promotion Fund.

even more through auctions and licensing fees.

"It is imperative that a part of these earnings is used to strengthen Indian IPRs, telecom products and manufacturing.

The government must create and operationalise TRDF, TEDF and TMPF without any delay. The strengthening of telecom product and entrepreneurship ecosystem will have long-term fiscal benefits," said that letter.

The National Telecom Policy 2012 had envisaged these funds for giving an impetus to domestic telecom manufacturing ecosystem.

Pioneer ND 15/05/2014 P-10

IIT, IIM, IISc faculty seek ₹17.5K cr telecom funds

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Faculties of top Indian institutes IIT, IIM and IISc have written to Telecom Minister Kapil Sibal to expeditiously operationalise funds proposed to be around ₹17,500 crore for developing domestic capabilities and reduce dependence on imports in the sector.

"We have written to the Telecom Minister and DoT for release of telecom funds. The next Parliament session is expected to start soon and the next government can take up this issue on priority basis," the Telecom Centers of Excellence Director J Jena said.

The Telecom Centers of Excellence is public-private initiative for capacity building to sustain telecom growth. Representatives of these top institutes are a part of the organisation.

The letter, signed by 35 professors belonging to Indian Institute of Technology, Indian Institute of Management and Indian Institute of Sciences, said government should without any delay operationalise the Telecom Manufacturing Promotion Fund (TMPF), the Telecom Research and Development Fund (TRDF) and the Telecom Entrepreneurship Development Fund (TEDF).

छात्र को बैठने दिया जाए जे.ई.ई. एडवांस में

नई दिल्ली, 14 मई (ब्यूरो): पहली बार आई.आई.टी. में दाखिला लेने का सपना पूरा न होने पर रीवा (मध्य प्रदेश) निवासी एक छात्र ने फिर से एक साल मेहनत करने की ठानी। इस बार उसने जे.ई.ई. में अच्छे नम्बर प्राप्त किए और वह जे.ई.ई. एडवांस की कटऑफ में शामिल हो गया लेकिन उसने अपने फार्म में गलती से यह लिख दिया कि उसने 12वीं 2012 में पास की थी। इसी गलती को आधार बनाकर सी.बी.एस.ई. ने उसे जे.ई.ई. एडवांस के लिए रजिस्ट्रेशन नहीं करने दिया लेकिन छात्र के भविष्य को देखते हुए दिल्ली हाईकोर्ट ने सी.बी.एस.ई. से कहा है कि वह इस छात्र को जे.ई.ई. एडवांस के लिए रजिस्ट्रेशन करने दे और उसे परीक्षा में बैठने दे।

GLOBAL SCIENCE

It's Time to Score in Science

What the next government should do
for science and innovation in India



Hari Pulakkat

The UK is one of the world's most productive nations in terms of science. It has 1% of the world's population but produces 16% of research papers. Its industrial R&D is highly competitive too. To take one example, the UK has just 3% of the global drug market, but spends 10% of the global R&D in this sector. And yet policymakers in Britain are worried. Domestic spending on R&D is just 1.72% of the GDP, far short of the government goal of 2.5%. So the government is formulating a long-term policy for science and innovation, to be announced later this year.

But the UK is not waiting for the policy to be ready to take vital decisions. A few days ago, the science minister, David Willetts, announced some big investments. The government thinks that the £300 million it is investing now will create economic opportunities worth £150 million every year thereafter; thereby providing a full return of investment in just two years. The message is loud and clear: invest in science to produce long-term growth.

The 2% Fantasy

In India, as the new government prepares to take over, few people have considered investments in science as a national priority. This is in spite of low national competitiveness, poor overall investments in R&D, global competition and the rapid rise of China as an R&D powerhouse.

Although China's growth in GDP is mostly due to increased labour supply and accumulation of capital, the country has paid enough attention to investments in R&D. In the last two decades it has tripled R&D investments as a percentage of GDP, from 0.65% in 1993 to around 1.98% now, overtaking the EU last year in R&D spending relative to GDP.

It is no wonder then that China is ranked 29 for global competitiveness while India is ranked 60. India spends only 0.9% of its GDP on R&D, placing it at the bottom

on the list of major R&D spenders. Israel is the highest spender at 4.4%, followed by South Korea (3.7%), Japan (3.6%), the Scandinavian countries and the US (2.8%). India's dream of increasing R&D investment to 2% of GDP has remained just that, in spite of attempts over two decades. It needs to go up quickly over the next five years if India is to create enough jobs and remain competitive.

Although the government has been increasing its investments in R&D, the private sector spending is quite low. Indian private investment in R&D is around 25% of the total. In most developed countries, the private sector contributes to at least two-thirds of R&D spending. So the government needs to create the right policies to get the private sector



increase its R&D investments. One could look at the example of UK once again; its tax on profits from inventions patented in the country is just 10%.

There is a lot that a new government can do. A good science-linked tax policy can increase private investment in R&D, boosting knowledge-based startups in particular. The government could increase its own spending in science, especially on improving the research infrastructure, as the absolute investment numbers are still quite low. It could speed up and simplify import procedures so that scientists could get their supplies of chemicals and equipment quickly. It could provide elite institutions with more flexibility in hiring, especially from abroad. It could create special funds for science-based startups, as existing ones are nowhere near what is required. Most importantly, it should begin by appointing dynamic managers to run government scientific institutions. Two key ones are headless now.

This column looks at global science from an Indian perspective

Times of India ND 15/05/2014 P-15

Nasa plans human landing on asteroid in 2020s

Washington: Nasa is planning a mission to send astronauts to an asteroid in the 2020s. Astronauts are training underwater to test tools for exploring an asteroid as well as the type of spacesuit that might be worn on the mission, according to the US space agency.

Wearing modified versions of the orange space shuttle launch and entry suits, two astronauts went underwater last week, in the Neutral Buoyancy Laboratory at Nasa's Johnson Space Center, a 40-foot-deep swimming pool

that helps provide the lack of gravity needed for astronauts to practice for spacewalks.

There a mockup of the Orion spacecraft that will carry astronauts to the asteroid, docked to a mockup of the robotic spacecraft that will be used to capture an asteroid and bring it into a stable orbit near the moon, provided the backdrop for the simulated spacewalk. "We're working on the techniques and tools we might use someday to explore a small asteroid that was captured

from an orbit around the sun and brought back by a robotic spacecraft to orbit around the moon," said Stan Love, one of the astronauts participating in the tests. "When it's there, we can send people there to take samples and take a look at it up close. That's our main task," Love said.

One of the key goals of visiting an asteroid will be to obtain a core sample that shows its layers, intact — such a sample could provide information on age of the solar system & how it was formed. AGENCIES



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REACH FOR THE STARS

Times of India ND 15/05/2014 P-15

Climate change a growing security threat: Study

'Warming-Induced Drought In Mideast, Africa Is Already Leading To Conflicts Over Food & Water'

Coral Davenport

Washington: The accelerating rate of climate change poses a severe risk to national security and acts as a catalyst for global political conflict, a report published on Tuesday by a leading government-funded military research organization concluded.

The Center for Naval Analyses Military Advisory Board found that climate change-induced drought in the Middle East and Africa is leading to conflicts over food and water and escalating longstanding regional and ethnic tensions into violent clashes. The report also found that rising sea levels are putting people and food supplies in vul-



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CONFLICT CATALYST

nerable coastal regions like eastern India, Bangladesh and the Mekong Delta in Vietnam at risk

and could lead to a new wave of refugees. In addition, the report predicted that an increase in catastrophic weather events worldwide will create more demand for American troops, even as flooding and extreme weather events at home could damage naval ports and military bases.

In an interview, secretary of state John Kerry signalled that the report's findings would influence American foreign policy.

"Tribes are killing each other over water today," Kerry said. "Think of what happens if you have massive dislocation, or the drying up of the waters of the Nile, of the major rivers in China and India. The intelligence community takes it seriously, and it's

translated into action." Kerry, who plans to deliver a major speech this summer on the links between climate change and national security, said his remarks would also be aimed at building political support for President Obama's climate change agenda, including a new regulation to cut pollution from coal-fired power plants that the administration will introduce in June.

"We're going to try to lay out to people legitimate options for action that are not bank-breaking or negative," Kerry said.

Pentagon officials said the report would affect military policy. "The department certainly agrees that climate change is having an impact on national se-

curity, whether by increasing global instability, by opening the Arctic or by increasing sea level and storm surge near our coastal installations," John Conger, the Pentagon's deputy under secretary of defence for installations and environment, said. "We are actively integrating climate considerations across the full spectrum of our activities to ensure a ready and resilient force." The report on Tuesday follows a recent string of scientific studies that warn that the effects of climate change are already occurring and that flooding, droughts, extreme storms, food and water shortages and damage to infrastructure will occur in the future.

In March, the Pentagon's

Quadrennial Defense Review, the agency's main public document describing the current doctrine of the US military, drew a direct link between the effects of global warming — like rising sea levels and extreme weather patterns — and terrorism. "These effects are threat multipliers that will aggravate stressors abroad, such as poverty, environmental degradation, political instability and social tensions — conditions that can enable terrorist activity," the review said.

Tuesday's report is an update of a report by the center's Military Advisory Board in 2007, the first major study to draw the link between climate change and national security. NYT NEWS SERVICE

Data analysts' salaries on the rise: study

Companies in finance, retail and e-commerce investing in big data initiatives

OUR BUREAU

Mumbai, May 14

As with any career, one would expect to get an increase in remuneration with a promotion or with every added year of experience. However, things are a lot perkier as a data analyst, with trends indicating that analytics professionals in India obtain a 250 per cent hike in their salaries from entry level analysts to manager, according to a new study.

Average entry level salaries have increased by 27 per cent since 2013, from ₹5.2 lakh to ₹6.6 lakh per annum, with managers in analytics commanding an annual salary upward of ₹15 lakh, according to Gaurav Vohra, co-founder of the Jigsaw Academy. At senior levels, annual salaries are upward of ₹25 lakh, which is more than a 60 per cent increase from a manager's salary, he added.

The Jigsaw Academy is a school of analytics, and trains people in

the field of analytics and big data. In the Academy's Annual Analytics Salary Report-2014, it has been noted that in five years, data analysts would earn thrice what they start off with.

Vohra pointed out that companies are investing heavily in data initiatives, and students and professionals are taking concrete steps to learn more about the field and become data savvy. However, the demand for trained analytics and big data professionals has also been increasing at a tremendous rate.

"Supply is still very constrained. This means that over half the positions on offer still remain unfilled," said Vohra, adding that analytics salaries would continue to be on their upward trajectory.

Huge market

With the size of the Indian analytics market pegged at \$375 million, the Indian analytics market



Rising up Trends indicate that analytics professionals in India obtain a 250 per cent hike in their salaries from entry level analysts to manager. SHUTTERSTOCK.COM/SERGEY NIVENS

is set to be \$1.15 billion by 2015. Currently, there are more than 500 companies operating in this segment in India.

"Salaries for analytics profes-

sionals have been rising faster than average for the last 10 years, fuelled by increasing demand for skilled people. This trend is expected to continue in 2014," he

added. Stating that Bangalore and Delhi/NCR continue to be the hubs for analytics companies in India, the study by the company noted that salaries in these ci-

ties are at ₹11 lakh. Analytics salaries in Hyderabad and Pune are 20 per cent lower in comparison to larger metro cities, added the study.

Big data

"Though many say big data is just hype, the reality is that companies are investing heavily in big data initiatives and are willing to pay big bucks for the right talent. In India, big data is just about picking up. Companies especially in the finance, retail and e-commerce sectors are relying more heavily on big data to make decisions that impact their sales, operations and workforce, and are ready to pay high salaries for the right skill set," added Vohra.

Given the explosive growth in the e-commerce segment, online businesses would start focussing on using analytics as a way for competitive differentiation this year, according to the study.

Social media analytics would become more popular, with more businesses leveraging social media to connect with their customers.

European Court rules against Google, permitting right to be forgotten online

Internet can't override privacy

Article 17 of the European Data Protection Regulation supports the 'right to be forgotten and to erasure'. The European Union's Court of Justice, in a ruling related to internet search engines, has empowered the subject of search to filter information under certain conditions. Effectively, it means people in Europe now are legally empowered to approach a search engine like Google with a request to block some

kinds of information about them which shows up in an online search. The European Court has placed an individual's right to privacy over the right of others to dig up online information in some circumstances. This is unexceptionable as the right to privacy must prevail regardless of the medium.

The ruling provides a level of protection against invasion of privacy. For example, often pictures of individuals are taken without permission and are easily available over the internet. This ruling shields people from such invasions of privacy. Just because one

uses a service from a search engine doesn't mean that one wants one's address or other personal details to be accessible through an internet search, yet this right to pri-

■ TIMES VIEW ■

vacancy is not adequately protected legally. That deserves to change.

Regarding the criticism that the court ruling opens the door to censorship, it allows data controllers to refuse to erase data if it is in the public interest, including if it is necessary for the data to remain online for use of other people. That protects websites from, say, a child molester approaching it with a request to wipe out data about his crimes. But if one committed indiscretions as a child, that record shouldn't be available online forever to haunt him or her throughout life. That surely is a reasonable expectation.



Threat to internet freedom

The judgment by the Court of Justice of the European Union, that an aggrieved person has every right to demand that an internet

■ COUNTERVIEW ■

Pyaralal Raghavan

search engine deletes the links to any web page which contains even lawful and accurate information on the person, on the grounds that it is outdated and deserves to be forgotten is absurd and a major threat to freedom on the internet. For one such a right would make a search engine result as one-sided and opinionated as a Facebook profile or an 'about me' page.

But more importantly it is a threat to the freedom of expression and there is the real danger that it would take self-censoring and policing of the net to absurd levels. For example, if one person is caught for a fraud or indiscre-

tion which is reported extensively in the media at that time he can demand after a few years that all links to such web pages that contain this information may be deleted from the list of results displayed, on the grounds that the crime was committed when he was very young and that it would be a blemish on his current status as a reformed and law-abiding citizen.

Such veto power over accurate and legal information to individuals, on the grounds of right to privacy, is absurd as it would substantially trim the function of the internet as a purveyor of information, inundating it with carefully crafted and self-serving facts and thereby destroying the credibility of the internet. Such artificial scrubbing of information to reinvent a person every few years would also be a major burden for search engines, content hosting services and parties who have made a copy or link to the original source at some time.

HT Lucknow

UK VARSITIES HOOKED ON TO LOK SABHA POLLS

Prasun Sonwalkar

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LONDON: Aided by technology and a growing number of Indian and Indian-origin academics here, the world's largest electoral exercise has evinced much interest in British universities, with scholars and students travelling to India for research and organising a series of events here.

Live streaming of Indian television channels has been organised at the University of Cambridge and other universities on Friday, the day election results will be declared. Blogs set up by academics and students will be announcing and commenting on results live.

Besides running an election-related blog, experts at the London School of Economics have organised a special session in association with the Indian Journalists Association on Friday, titled 'Elections 2014: The Biggest Event in the World'.

Seventy-five academics (most of them of Indian-origin) based at British universities publicly intervened in the election discourse in April by writing to The Independent that the prospect of Narendra Modi coming to power "fills us with dread".

Events include seminars to discuss the 'election experience' of students and scholars who travelled to India during the various phases. Organisers include the 'India centres' which have been set up in universities in recent years. A blog titled 'Ballots and Bullets' curated by Katherine Adeney, professor at the University of Nottingham, includes contributions from experts from various countries.

"We will also hold an event funded by the Politics of South Asia group of the Political Studies Association in Nottingham on the 3 July, assessing the campaign and the results", Adeney said.

Two BHU students commit suicide in two days

VARANASI: Rahul Prajapati, 27, a research scholar at Banaras Hindu University was found dead in his hostel room on Wednesday. Prima facie, the incident seemed to be of drug overdose. Inmates of the Aiyar hostel reported the incident to the university proctorial board. He was being treated for anxiety. In an unrelated incident earlier on Tuesday evening, Bhawna Gupta, 22, committed suicide by hanging herself at her house in Sonarpura.

HTC