

Newspaper Clips May 16, 2014

HT Mumbai

IIT, NIT aspirants face another glitch

Apoorva Puranik

■ apoorva.puranik@hindustantimes.com

MUMBAI: Deferring the idea of holding common counselling rounds for admissions to the Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs) and the National Institutes of Technology (NITs), the IITs have stated that the software used for allotment of seats in the common counselling is not ready and lacks testing.

The Union Ministry of Human Resource Development had suggested that both the institutes hold counselling together. Academicians are worried as many seats will remain vacant owing to separate counselling.

“Common counselling would make sure that no student is allotted more than one seat in either IITs or NITs. Students who get a seat in an IIT but not in a stream of their choice will now wait for NIT and other engineering colleges. The IIT seat will remain blocked for other students.” said an IIT Bombay professor.

Last year, close to 800 seats across the 16 IITs remained vacant while a similar number of vacant seats were recorded at NITs. Other engineering colleges across states also saw empty classrooms owing to such blocked seats.

With states like Maharashtra, Goa and Gujarat not conducting state level engineering exams anymore, students will take admissions on the basis of JEE

VACANT SEATS CAUSE FOR WORRY

Last year, nearly 800 seats across the 16 IITs remained vacant while a similar number of vacant seats were recorded at NITs. Other engineering colleges across states also saw empty classrooms owing to such blocked seats.

Sources in the ministry say that they are planning on developing and testing new software which might help launch common counselling in 2015.

Main. Hence, seats in state engineering colleges also remain blocked as students want to wait for counselling dates of the NITs to try their luck.

According to GRC Reddy, director, NIT Goa, the IITs feel that their institutes will not find many takers if common counselling is held. “It seems vacant seats is not a concern for the IITs and they want to remain exclusive as students prefer NITs more because they get a stream of their choice.”

Sources in the ministry say that since the IITs and the NITs use different softwares for counselling, they are planning on developing and testing new software which might help launch common counselling in 2015.

IIM-A Ranked among the World's Top B-schools, Leaving Ivy Competitors Behind

<http://www.jagranjosh.com/articles/iima-ranked-among-the-worlds-top-bschools-leaving-ivy-competitors-behind-1400135352-1>

If you want to earn higher then you may go for Indian Institute of Management, Ahmedabad (IIM-A), which is surely to give you more bangs for your buck that any other top class foreign university does. As per a study conducted by The Economist magazine, Harvard and Stanford Universities are unable to land you with good jobs that IIM-A can deliver.

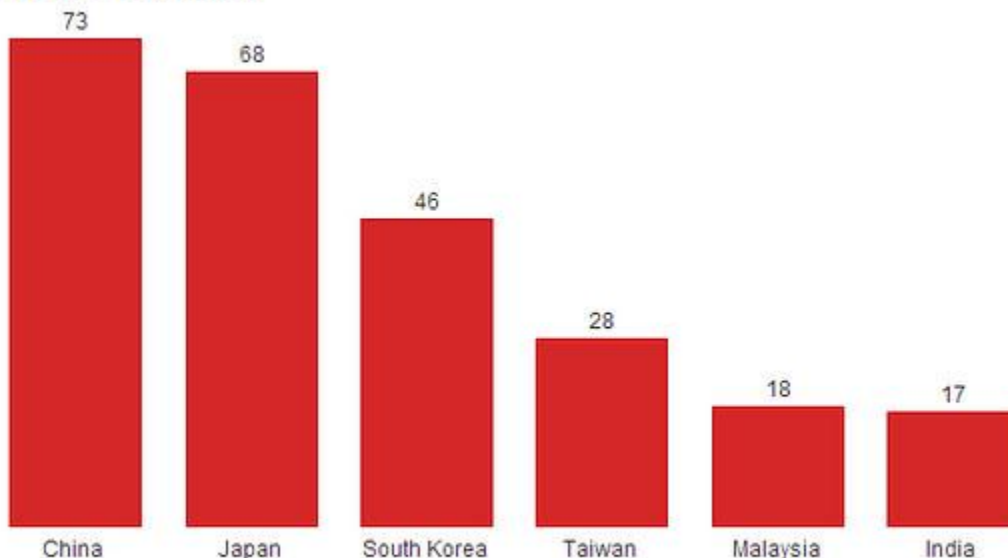
IIM-A's two year management programme offers a return on investment (RoI) of 44% whereas Harvard has 15% and Stanford comes up to 14%. IIM-A has been placed in the world's fourth best B-schools and is termed under the category of 'Good Value MBAs', leaving some other great universities of Ivy league like Stanford, Harvard, Kellogg and Wharton behind. The ranking is conducted on the basis of the cost that is charged for an MBA programme which includes the tuition fees and forgone salary.

RoI is calculated on the basis of the difference counted between pre and post MBA salary that is divided by the total cost of the programme. Thus the fees that one pays at IIM-A and the previous salary that one foregoes, the graduates' gets a higher return from the immediate compensation package earned through placement.

Three universities ranked higher than IIM-A are HEC Paris 67%, Aston Britain 64% and University of Hong Kong with 60%.

Why Do India's IITs Do So Badly on Some University Rankings?

Varying Degrees: Number of Universities Ranked Within Asia's Top 300



In a survey of 300 Asian universities released this week, Indian schools — even the prestigious Indian Institutes of Technology — once again failed to reach the top of the ranks.

Delhi's IIT is the first Indian institution to surface [in the latest Quacquarelli Symonds rankings](#), but not until way down in the list at number 38. Not far behind is IIT Bombay at number 41.

How is it that the place with the world's toughest entrance exam and an alumni list [which includes some of the world's top executives](#) and academics is outshined by Japan's Nagoya University and City University of Hong Kong?

Only two Indian universities were ranked in the top 50, leaving the world's largest democracy far behind Japan which had 13 in the top 50, China and South Korea which had 9 each and Hong Kong and Taiwan with six each in the top 50.

[Tiny Singapore nabbed the first spot](#), with the National University of Singapore moving up from second place last year.

While China was home for 73 of the top 300 universities and Japanese institutions accounted for 68, India only had 17 names on the complete list. Its performance this year was an improvement from 11 last year.

India's Manipal Institute of Technology, [the alma mater of the new heads of Microsoft as well as Nokia Corp.](#), wasn't even in the top 150.

The London-based Quacquarelli Symonds says it polled over 50,000 people to rank Asian universities on nine indicators including academic and employer reputation, international faculty and students, and research citations and papers.

Indian schools get rave reviews from scholars and executives, but their grade point average plummets as other parameters are added.

The University of Delhi — the first non-IIT to make the list at number 81 — was ranked in the top 25 in Asia by employers, and the top 40 by academics, but its overall ranking was much lower because of its large size and small number of international faculty and students.

“The academic and employer reputation surveys are the indicators in which the IITs do best,” said Danny Byrne, Quacquarelli's senior editor of its website [topuniversities.com](#). “Their performance in the other areas we measure, such as research citations, student-to-faculty ratio and internationalization, tends to be significantly weaker.”

The biggest challenge for Indian universities hoping to fare better in international rankings is research, Ben Sowter, head of research at Quacquarelli told The Wall Street Journal.

“They're pure teaching environments,” he said, adding that although a lot research happens in India, much of it is outside the university system.



Indian students at IIT Bombay.

Agence France-Presse/Getty Images

Another reason IITs rank surprisingly low is that they are technology-focused which does not look well-rounded when compared to top national universities like the University of Hong Kong which is ranked third in Asia and Peking University in China which was number 8.

“Specialist institutions are disadvantaged in the academic reputation survey because we ask academics to tell us about the best institutions in the fields in which they are experts,” said Mr. Byrne. “Therefore institutions that excel in a wide range of fields theoretically have a better chance of doing well.”

Indian institutions also lose ground because they are blessed with so many students, which hurts their professor to student ratios and weighs on their research budgets.

“Indian institutions are working so hard on the demographic challenge,” said Mr. Sowter.

While some big brains at IIT will tell you there is no more elite establishment in the world, they are smart enough to admit that there is always room for improvement.

“A major reason why we lag behind other Asian institutions in the overall score is the (small) number of international students and faculty,” said a spokeswoman for IIT Bombay. “The number of citations per paper is another area where we need to improvise

<https://blogs.wsj.com/indiarealtime/2014/05/15/why-do-indias-iits-do-so-badly-on-some-university-rankings/>

Business Standard ND 16/05/2014 P-6

B-schools reduce seats, cut fees to attract students

KALPANA PATHAK & VINAY UMARJI

Mumbai/Ahmedabad, 15 May

With management courses falling out of favour, Ahmedabad-based United World School of Business (UWB) has brought down the number of seats for MBA from 240 last year to 180 this year. The institute says more seats are putting a strain on its resources.

"Students do not want to get into management education. In such a scenario, it would not be right for us to put pressure on the marketing team to get students for 240 seats. We have to maintain a certain standard. We will not lower the standard just to fill the seats. Hence, we brought down the number of seats," said Ritesh

Hada, UWB managing director.

Besides, the number of students joining courses after getting admission offers has also come down 25 per cent this year, Hada added. UWB had recently increased its admission fee for MBA from ₹4.75 lakh last year to ₹5 lakh this year.

Many B-schools across the country are also feeling the pinch. A B-school in the National Capital Region has not only lowered its fee by ₹25,000 but is also planning to reduce the number of seats.

Industry players say it could be a tough admission season for B-schools this year. Barring the top 100 schools, a majority of them is finding it difficult to fill seats. Admissions will get over by mid-June. "The admission season does not look very promising this year, too. Thanks to the not-so-impressive placements and economic growth, it will be difficult to convince students to join a B-

school. Except the top ones, others are in for difficult times," said H Chaturvedi, director Birla Institute of Management Technology, Greater Noida. Chaturvedi says only 200,000 of about 400,000 MBA seats will be filled this year. "The situation cannot improve

unless the economy shows sizeable growth," he added.

However, B-schools are making all efforts for a decent admission season. Many schools have even approached MBA coaching institutes in a bid to reach out to students. While some are distributing pamphlets and requesting coaching institutes to spread a word about them, others have roped in admission agents.



For full report, visit
www.business-standard.com

Times of India, ND 16/05/2014 p-19

'Why only male subjects? Include females in lab tests'

Roni Caryn Rabin

For decades, scientists have embarked on the long journey toward a medical breakthrough by first experimenting on laboratory animals. Mice or rats, pigs or dogs, they were usually male: Researchers avoided using female animals for fear that their reproductive cycles and hormone fluctuations would confound the results of delicately calibrated experiments.

That laboratory tradition has had enormous consequences for women. Name a new drug or treatment, and odds are researchers know far more about its effect on men than on women. From sleeping pills to statins, women have been blindsided by side effects and dosage miscalculations that were not discovered until after the product hit the market.

Now the National Institutes of Health says that this routine gender bias in basic research must end. In a commentary published on Wedn-



© Holger Winkler/Corbis

BLIND SPOT: Drug experiments are always conducted on male animals. Hence, researchers have no idea about the medication's side-effects on women

esday in the journal *Nature*, Dr Francis Collins, director of the NIH, and Dr Janine A Clayton, director of the institutes' Office of Research on Women's Health, warned scientists that they must begin testing their theories in female lab animals and in female tissues and cells.

The new requirement announced by the NIH for researchers applying for funding is likely to have a big influence because the agency

is one of the world's top financial backers of biomedical studies, spending about \$30 billion annually.

The NIH has already taken researchers to task for their failure to include adequate numbers of women in clinical trials. The new announcement is an acknowledgment that this gender disparity begins much earlier in the research process. "Most scientists want to do the most powerful experiment to get the most durable, powerful answers," Collins said. "For most, this has not been on the radar screen as an important issue. What we're trying to do here is raise consciousness."

Women now make up more than half the participants in clinical research funded by the institutes, but it has taken years to get to this point, and women still are often underrepresented in clinical trials carried out by drug companies and medical device manufacturers. Partly as a result, women experience more severe side effects from new treatments, studies have shown. NYT NEWS SERVICE

बेटे की मौत का कारण पता लगाने आए थे, मौत उन्हें भी ले गई

पिता पर भारी पड़ा बेटे का गम, आत्महत्या करने वाले आईआईटी छात्र कुणाल के पिता की जोधपुर में हृदयाघात से मौत

जोधपुर

jodhpur@patrika.com

बेटे की मौत का गम सीने में लिए माता-पिता उसकी मौत के कारण का पता लगाने के लिए सोमवार को जोधपुर पहुंचे थे। बेटे की मौत का कारण तो पता नहीं चल पाया, लेकिन उसकी मौत का गम पिता के लिए भारी पड़ गया। आईआईटीयन बेटे कुणाल परसवानी की मौत के ठीक एक माह बाद गुरुवार को पिता विष्णु केवलराम परसवानी ने भी यहां जोधपुर में ही हृदयाघात से दम तोड़ दिया। पहले होनहार बेटे को खोया और अब पति का साथ छूटा... मोहिनी पर तो मानो वज्रपात हो गया। सीने पर पत्थर रख खुद अपने हाथों से पति के शव को कफन में लपेटा और एम्बुलेंस में जलगांव लेकर रवाना हुई।



पति की पार्थिव देह को लेकर रवाना होती गमगीन पत्नी।

खाना भी नहीं खा पाए थे ...

मृतक की पत्नी मोहिनी ने बताया कि गुरुवार को सीपीडब्ल्यूडी के गेस्ट हाउस से खाना खाने के लिए रवाना होने वाले थे कि इतने में उनके (वीके परसवानी) के सीने में तेज दर्द हुआ। तुरंत फोन कर एम्बुलेंस बुलवाई और गोल हॉस्पिटल लेकर पहुंचे। अस्पताल के डॉ. आनंद गोयल ने बताया कि अस्पताल पहुंचने से पहले ही उनकी मौत हो चुकी थी।

...फोन आया तो फफक पड़ी

पति का शव एमडीएम अस्पताल के ट्रोमा सेंटर में स्ट्रेचर पर रखा था और मोहिनी मानो शून्य में खोई हुई थी, आंसू मानो सूख गए थे...। शव के सिरहाने बैठी मोहिनी के फोन की घंटी बजी...। किसी रिश्तेदार से बातचीत शुरू हुई तो मानो मोहिनी के सब्र का बांध टूट पड़ा। फोन पर बातें करते-करते जो देर तक रोती रही।

चिकित्सक ने कहा था आराम करो...

मोहिनी ने बताया कि घर से रवाना होने से पहले भी पति के सीने में दर्द की शिकायत हुई थी। चिकित्सकों को दिखाया तो उन्हें आराम करने के लिए बोला। ...लेकिन बेटे की पोस्टमार्टम रिपोर्ट लेने आने के लिए वे जिद किए हुए थे और साथ ही आए।

15 दिन बाद दुबारा आते

उन्होंने बताया कि तीन-चार दिन यहां चिकित्सा विभाग व पुलिस के साथ बातचीत हुई। बेटे की पोस्टमार्टम रिपोर्ट अभी आई नहीं। हमें 15 दिन बाद दुबारा यहां आना था। शुक्रवार को ट्रेन का टिकट कन्फर्म नहीं हुआ इसलिए गुरुवार शाम को सूरत तक बस से जाना था। वहां से ट्रेन पकड़ते।

खुद लपेटा कफन में

मृतक वीके परसवानी के शव को अस्पताल कर्मचारी कफन में लपेट रहे थे। पास ही में बैठी मोहिनी खुद खड़ी हुई और कर्मचारियों के साथ मिलकर पति के पूरे शरीर पर घी का लेप किया और कफन में लपेटा। उसके बाद कागजी औपचारिकताएं पूरी कर शव को एम्बुलेंस में लेकर रवाना हुई।