

Newspaper Clips

May 18, 2012

Hindustan Times, ND 18/05/2012 P-11

Clearing JEE will not guarantee entry into IIT

TOUGH TIMES Lower cut-offs mean more eligible students, but aggregate holds key to all-India rank and admission

Chetan Chauhan

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NEW DELHI: More students will be eligible for admission in the Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs) in 2012, but this does not necessarily mean a guarantee of entry into the country's premier institutions.

The IIT-Delhi will announce the results of IIT-JEE 2012 on Friday, and more than 25,000 students are expected to be eligible for admission in the premier institutes, nearly double of the number in 2011 (13, 600).

This is because the IITs have decided to lower the cut-off marks for general students to 35%, compared to 47.7% in 2011. In addition to the aggregate, the students are required to score minimum marks in physics, maths and chemistry to be eligible for the all-India rank.

GB Reddy, chairman of JEE 2012, explained the aggregates were announced well in advance to help students prepare for the examination. "The aggregate is the bottom-line of the rank," he told HT, refusing to disclose the number of students who will make it to all-India rank.

IIT-JEE 2012: FACTS AND FIGURES

MAY 18

Exam results to be announced

- **5.07 lakh** aspirants appeared for the test on **April 8**
- **1.69 lakh** of the candidates were girls
- There were as many as **1,067** exam centres across the country

Having more students on the eligibility list will enable IITs to call more students for counselling. While two students will be called for each general category seat, it will be up to three in the case of reserved seats.

Even HRD minister Kapil Sibal had stressed on making admissions to premier institutions — IITs and IIMs — more inclusive. According to an official, a bigger basket of students will help the institutes widen their scope of absorption without compromising on quality.

However, the higher number of eligible students is not a reason for cheer. "The number of seats in IITs will be the same. So,

TO APPEAR ON THE RANK LIST:

- General category students have to get a minimum aggregate score of **35%**, and at least **10%** in individual sections
- OBC students have to get **31.5%** in the overall score, and at least **9%** in individual sections.

the number of students to be called will be same as last year," said IIT Kharagpur professor Rajiv Kumar, whose PIL in the SC had pushed the IITs to open up. Only short-listed candidates, who pay the initial admission fee of ₹40,000 (for general category) and ₹20,000 (for OBCs), are eligible for counselling.

Once the counselling process is over, the student has to take the course offered or forfeit the admission fee, resulting in seats at "not-so-preferred IIT courses" to remain vacant. "There is no option to withdraw," Kumar said, suggesting that IITs should provide an option of refund like other technical institutes.

IIT MAKES UP FOR QUESTION GOOF-UP

Vanita Srivastava

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NEW DELHI: Just one day before announcing the results, IIT has admitted a mistake in the answer sheet put on its website.

IIT had marked AD as correct answer to the multiple choice question No 35 of paper II of Physical Chemistry. There were several complaints on this particular answer and finally after deliberating IIT has decided to give 4 marks to all those who have given ACD as their choice for answer. "Yes, we have given four marks to all those who have given ACD as the correct answer to that question," said GB Reddy, Organising Chairperson of JEE 2012.

RN Singh, senior professor of Physical Chemistry, Department of Chemistry, BHU, had contended that the answer given for that question was not correct. IIT has for the first time put the answer sheets on its website. Many complaints of errors in answers and ambiguity in questions had poured after that.

Pioneer ND 18-May-12 P7

Students in a fix over low pre-fixed IIT-JEE cutoff

MOUSHUMI BASU ■ NEW DELHI

The much-awaited IIT-JEE results to be announced on Friday may disillusion many due to pre-fixed low aggregate cut off at 35%. This will enable thousands of students to score qualifying marks but with seats remaining the same — not all qualified candidates will find place in the IITs.

Further, students who may get admission offer from the institute and be tempted to deposit registration fee of ₹40,000 may find themselves “trapped” with programme of study figuring low in their preference list.

As per the admission counseling schedule available, there is no exit policy by which a student can surrender the allocated seat. In absence of any exit policy in IIT admission -- such students who may want to opt out of IIT are caught in a fix. With the payment of registration fee they are deemed

admitted in the institute without actually availing the seat.

Such a candidate is neither refunded the money nor is he allowed to appear again in JEE next year. In a sheer wastage of scarce academic resources in the country the seat too is not passed on to the next set of wait listed candidates.

In sharp contrast the Central Counseling Board (CCB) the largest admission counseling for engineering admission based on AIEEE results under Ministry of Human Resources Development allows students to cancel their admission at any stage.

They are also entitled to reclaim a major part of the fee and the seat is offered to wait listed students. “It is strange to note how JEE and AIEEE both wings of the same MHRD have such contrasting admission policies,” opined a parent of a candidate who opted out of admission in IIT Madras last year and was not allowed to take

the second chance in JEE 2012.

The expecting candidates pointed out that the aggregate cutoff, in JEE 2012, is fixed at 35% which is 141 out of 401 for General candidates. Last year, the aggregate cutoff was pegged at 47.7%, which was 229 out of 480 for general candidates, in JEE 2011. IIT declared 13,600 candidates as qualified in JEE 2011 for 9,600 candidates.

But this year due to significantly lower aggregate cutoffs of JEE 2012, there will be above 25,000 students who will qualify JEE 2012 and get All India Ranking. However, the total number of seats in all 16 IITs (including ISMU Dhanbad) is almost the same, which is about 10,000.

Hence one should not get too elated to see that (s)he has qualified in IIT-JEE. However, such a candidate can take admission in other institutes who consider JEE rank for their admissions.

Hindu Chennai 17.05.2012 P-2

Students anxious about JEE results

Staff Reporter

CHENNAI: Even as students prepare for the Joint Entrance Exam (JEE) results that are scheduled to be declared on Friday, the answer keys uploaded by the Indian Institute of Technology, Delhi recently, have caused a lot of anxiety.

The examination was conducted on April 8, and the answer keys to the question papers were declared after the evaluation of all the optical response sheets.

The scrutiny of the sheets has revealed that two questions were wrong and two more questions in the Physics paper had more than one correct answer.

The candidates, however, will be not be penalised for the error and out of the four questions, the wrong ones will carry zero marks while the students will not be given negative marking for the remaining two.

“The concern is the amount of time a student wastes on a question that is wrong or has multiple correct answers. Every mark matters a lot in the JEE because it can be the deciding mark,” R. Shekhar, a physics teacher in a private school in the city, said.

Students who took the test say they did find the questions confusing, particularly the physics ones.

“I spent a long time on the physics question because it could be interpret-

Two questions were wrong and two more questions in the Physics paper had more than one correct answer

ed in two ways to get two answers, and both were given as options. I skipped it later because I did not want to lose marks for marking the wrong answer,” said R. Chandraprakash, a student who took JEE 2012.

A senior IIT-Madras professor said the errors happened as questions papers cannot be peer reviewed in order to maintain secrecy, and cannot even be transferred online for scrutiny before the exam, due to security reasons.

Such errors are not an uncommon feature in the JEEs, but the institutes have always tried to compensate for them by awarding marks to the students, said R. Rajan, Student Mentor, FIIT- JEE.

The total marks have come down now, so this will affect the calculations of the students, he added. Last year, 12 free marks were awarded to students for erroneous questions.

Candidates will get to know their All India Ranks (AIR) / Category ranks on the IIT-JEE 2012 websites / SMS / IVRS on or after May 18, 2012.

18 May 2012 | Hindustan Times (Mumbai) | Bhavya Dore bhavya.dore@hindustantimes.com

topper scores 385 out of 401

Less than 10 candidates' scores recalculated

MUMBAI: The top score this year at the Joint Entrance Exam () for admission to the Indian of is 385 out of 401 marks. results were announced at midnight on Friday. Chairperson of the office at confirmed the top score but declined to say anything further until the results were officially announced.

Unconfirmed claims stated that the topper was from Delhi and the highest scoring candidate from Maharashtra was sixth on the all India merit , and that the candidate is from Mumbai.

This time less than 10 candidates' scores had to be recalculated following applications for reviewing . This is the second year that the uploaded candidates' Optical Response Sheets (ORS) online before the official announcement of merit on Friday, to allow students to see if there had been any errors in the reading and tabulation of their scores.

Candidates could apply for rechecking between May 5 and May 10, with less than 100 candidates applying for this facility but only around six or eight genuine cases of errors, said officials. Nearly five lakh candidates appeared for the this year.

"This is a very small number given how many appear for the exam," said AV Mahajan, chairperson of the office at IITBombay. "For the few genuine cases there were some errors in the machine reading because they had erased the answer first."

The had earlier admitted to two errors in the paper when the answer keys were uploaded online, for which they granted no marks to any student for the two questions totally worth seven marks. The total number of marks fell, as a result from 408 to 401. As for two other questions that candidates later complained were ambiguous, officials granted marks to students accounting for both possible answers to the contentious questions. "Since there were different interpretations of the same problem both possibilities were allowed," said Mahajan.

Last year the decided to make answer sheets available to students online in a bid for greater transparency and to give students a chance to air their complaints.

Navbharat Times ND 18/05/12 p-3

फरीदाबाद का हो सकता है आईआईटी टॉपर

नई दिल्ली/फरीदाबाद | हिटी

एक कोचिंग संस्थान की मानें तो फरीदाबाद का अर्पित अग्रवाल आईआईटी-जेईई परीक्षा में ऑल इंडिया टॉपर है। शहर के एक निजी स्कूल में पढ़ने वाले इस छात्र ने परीक्षा में 401 में 385 अंक हासिल किए हैं, जिसको सबसे ज्यादा बताया गया है। बयान जारी कर संस्था ने यह जानकारी दी।

दरअसल, आईआईटी ने इस बार परीक्षा प्रक्रिया का पारदर्शी बनाने के उद्देश्य से रिजल्ट जारी करने से पहले ही ऑप्टिकल रिस्पांस शीट (ओआरएस) जारी कर की है। जिसके बाद संस्थान ने सीट से प्राप्त अंक के आधार पर यह दावा किया है।

सत्र 2012-13 में देश के 17 आईआईटी संस्थानों में दाखिला के लिए

संस्था का दावा

- ओआरएस सीट के आधार पर छात्र को मिल सकते हैं 385 अंक
- इससे पहले 2009 में नितिन जैन ने किया था आईआईटी टॉप

आठ अप्रैल को परीक्षा हुई थी। इसमें 408 अंक के प्रश्नपत्र में से सात अंक के गलत प्रश्न होने के कारण आईआईटी ने 401 अंक के आधार पर मूल्यांकन किया।

संस्था की मानें तो 385 अंक अधिकतम हैं। अगर ऐसा होता है तो आईआईटी में टॉप करने वाला यह फरीदाबाद का दूसरा होनहार होगा। इससे पहले भी 2009 में शहर के नितिन जैन ने इसमें टॉप किया था। नितिन को 480 अंक में 428 अंक मिले थे।

Rashtriya Sahara ND 18-May-12

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आईआईटी परीक्षा 2012 का रिजल्ट आज

नई दिल्ली (एसएनबी)। भारतीय प्रौद्योगिकी संस्थान (आईआईटी) की संयुक्त प्रवेश परीक्षा 2012 का परिणाम शुक्रवार को घोषित कर दिया जाएगा। विद्यार्थी आईआईटी-जेईई की वेबसाइट पर सुबह अपना रिजल्ट देख सकेंगे। आईआईटी ने इस बार उत्तर पुस्तिकाओं को ऑनलाइन भी किया था। इसके अलावा उत्तर पुस्तिकाओं

► 8 अप्रैल को
आईआईटी प्रवेश
परीक्षा में बैठे थे
4.79 लाख परीक्षार्थी

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में गड़बड़ होने पर इसको ठीक कराने के लिए आवेदन करने भी व्यवस्था की गई थी। बीते 8 अप्रैल को आयोजित आईआईटी-जेईई के लिए देशभर के सात आईआईटी में दाखिले के लिए 5 लाख 6 हजार 728 विद्यार्थियों ने अपनी पंजीकरण कराया था। जिनमें से 4 लाख 79 हजार 642 परीक्षार्थियों परीक्षा में बैठे थे।

जबकि 27 हजार 105 परीक्षार्थी परीक्षा से अनुपस्थित रहे। इस बार देशभर में स्थित सात आईआईटी में करीब 9 हजार 500 सीटों पर दाखिले होंगे। ये सात आईआईटी दिल्ली, मुंबई, गोवहाटी, कानपुर, खड़गपुर, मद्रास और रुड़की में हैं।

Tribun Chandigarh 17.05.12 P-18

COMMON ENGINEERING TEST

Most IITs reject weightage to school exams

ADITI TANDON/TNS

NEW DELHI, MAY 16

The government's proposed common engineering test 2013 for admission of students to centrally funded technical institutes has hit a virtual roadblock, with faculties of premier IITs rejecting it in its present form.

The senates (faculty bodies) of six out of seven old Indian Institutes of Technology have put their foot down so far as treating the proposed exam as an admission test to premier institutes is concerned.

In their representation to HRD Minister Kapil Sibal, Senates of all IITs - Bombay, Madras, Kanpur, Kharagpur, Delhi and Roorkee (with the exception of Guwahati) have categorically said school board exam performance "will not to be used for the preparation of the final merit list in respect of admission to IITs and IITs will prepare this final list on the basis of an IIT advanced test."

A majority of the professors in the IIT system have resolved that the current practice of admissions to the undergraduate program to the IITs (through IIT-JEE) should continue unchanged for 2013 and the national screening test should be held only from 2014.

IIT faculty has however red-flagged a key element of the proposed common national exam - admission of students to central technical institutes including IITs on the basis of this test whose merit list would be prepared after factoring in the school board marks and results of an objective type aptitude test. IIT teachers say they would select the top students from the national screening and subject them to an IIT advanced subjective type test to prepare their final merit list for admission to the premier institutes (eight new ones have been added in the recent past).

In their statement to Sibal, the senates have said, "From 2014 onwards, the national entrance test be used as a screening test for the purpose of admissions to undergraduate programmes to IITs. From the national screening test, a fixed number of candidates (about 50,000) will be chosen who will become eligible to appear in the advanced test to be conducted by the IITs." This practically puts IITs out of the purview of the test.

IITs say the merit list of advanced test would not factor in board exam marks and structure would be prepared in due course.

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The decline and fall of engineers

In a technology-driven world, the role of engineer has become less important

Engineering is today the choice of profession for the mediocre. I heard this disconcerting statement in the last month from three successful technologists. All three have another thing in common: they have children who have chosen to study humanities, not engineering.

A disclaimer is in order: I have an engineering degree, but having done very poorly, never chanced my luck at any engineering job.

In the 1970s and 1980s, any middle-class child doing well in school was expected to become a doctor or an engineer or a chartered accountant. In a stifling economic environment, the only passport to a better life for a middle-class youth seemed to be one of these professions. In fact, there was widespread prejudice that a boy who chose humanities (what a girl studied did not matter) was doing so because he was not "good enough" for engineering.

As an interviewing board member of a foundation that offers scholarships to IITians for studies in the US and as a frequent invitee to various IITs, I've interacted with scores of IIT students in the past decade. An overwhelming number say that they hate engineering and can't wait to get an MBA. This, as opposed to the 50% of all IITians of the 1970s and 1980s who went off to get a PhD in the US, many of whom might not have been particularly interested in engineering. Today, the 10% of IITians who go to the US do so because they seriously want to pursue research.

Meanwhile, larger numbers of 18-year-olds than ever before are enrolling for humanities, liberal arts and design degrees.

The reasons are several. Beginning in the 1980s, the balance of power in the Indian corporate world shifted emphatically from engineers to MBAs. In pure engineering jobs,

computer-aided design (CAD) and computer-aided manufacturing (CAM) software have almost entirely replaced a vast amount of manual engineering skills-based work. Large engineering design sheets over which brilliant structural engineers pored with geometrical instruments and calculator in hand, working out stress, strain, torsion, are history. As long as the data you input is correct and the objectives clear, the computer quickly spews out a perfectly valid design. Now when you build a bridge, human ingenuity is required more in the "design" (the looks) rather than the "engineering design".

Of course, CAD and CAM softwares—or software for chip design and delicate medical instruments—are created by engineers, but they work in the software equivalent of industrial age factories. The architect of the software cathedral is, of course, an excellent engineer, but the rest of his team are skilled stonemasons working on a plan delivered to them and supervised by foremen, the whole works no different in essence from the conveyor belts on which Charlie Chaplin worked in *Modern Times*. Yes, every innovation comes from a brilliant engineering brain, but making it a reality is just laborious non-creative coding. Compared with even two decades ago, world business needs much fewer top engineering minds, but much larger masses of essentially blue-collar engineers.

For proof, you only need to check the average starting salary of a software engineer minted in one of the hundreds of B or C grade engineering colleges that dot India.

Apple, which briefly became the most valuable company in the world, is hardly an engineering company. Its success is based on a dazzling design sense and superb marketing—essentially being able



to wrap itself in an inviolable aura of "cool".

Today, the excitement in global business is driven by ideas more than technological acumen, where advances are only incremental. Even the focus in the world's most visible engineering-based industries—the telecom-IT mixed breeds—has shifted to the human technology interface from what lies inside the devices—an area where behavioural scientists and graphic designers play a larger role than engineers, who merely implement.

And while engineers as a class have descended down the "essential to success" scale, other professions have risen. In India, in the last two decades, dozens of well-paying—and newly respectable (let's not forget our middle-class mentality)—career paths have jostled their way to the front and flourished. The makers of *3 Idiots* revealed a laughable ignorance when they implied that the Madhavan character, as a wildlife photographer, would definitely earn less than his

engineering classmates.

Liberalization has also wrought a tectonic psychological shift. The generation that graduated in the 1980s and has been the biggest beneficiary of economic reforms, has given its children far more freedom than their parents did, when it comes to choosing careers. We understand the concept of "choice" far better, having experienced a caged-in economy.

When my engineer friends say that engineering has now become a profession for the mediocre, they are certainly not correct. But what is true is that, one, the world attaches top value today only to brilliant engineers and not to the profession as a whole; and two, a very large number of Indian parents are ready to back their children's passions and interests, rather than force-feed them into a limited idea of success defined in terms that should have been dead and buried a long time ago.

Comments are welcome at theirview@livemint.com

Tops survey on univs for second yr in a row

By Mail Today Bureau
In New Delhi

DELHI University (DU) has maintained its numero uno status for the second year in a row in the *India Today* AC-Nielsen Best Universities Survey. It is followed by Banaras Hindu University (BHU), the University of Calcutta, Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU) and Aligarh Muslim University (AMU).

The survey, which has emerged as the gold standard for students and parents across the country, ranks 50 best universities and, for the first time, also lists the first five fastest risers in the rankings and five biggest losers.

The results have only been arrived at using the rigour of extensive fieldwork and statistics combining subjective criteria (perception of top academics from abroad) and objective criteria such as teacher-student ratio and courses offered.

The biggest surprise in the survey is AMU's entry into the top five. Last year, the university occupied the eleventh spot.

In the past, the institution had made headlines for violence on campus, but now AMU seems to be turning a new leaf. Though its rise can be partially explained by the fact that some institutions such as Pune, Bangalore and Mumbai University could not submit the necessary data for the survey on time because of their own constraints, this development can also be viewed as the institution's attempt to regain some of its past glory.

The survey, however, has its share of constants, too. DU, for instance, has not budged from its top ranking position since last year. And the new vice-chancellor Dinesh Singh is only helping the institution keep pace with the Capital it is situated in.

At the heart of the university's transformation is the concept of a meta-college which will revolutionise the existing course structure. Under a meta-college, a student can design his own course by mixing and matching papers offered at different colleges affiliated to DU.

Coming in a close second, BHU is also undergoing a revolution of sorts. The biggest feather in its cap is the upgradation of its institution of tech-



LEADING THE CHART: Delhi University vice-chancellor Dinesh Singh with his students after the university aced the survey this year.

THE METHODOLOGY

INDIA TODAY partnered with The Nielsen Company to determine India's top universities in the arts, science and commerce streams. Only universities that offer post-graduate courses in arts, science and commerce were considered.

Institutions which specialise in only one area such as the IITs, AIIMS or NITs were not included in the survey.

To determine the ranks, a formula based on a perception score and an objective score was evolved.

First, in-depth interviews were conducted with experts to ratify the parameters on which universities were judged.

Next, after intensive desk research, a list of more than 160 universities was drawn up and 337 experts were asked to distribute 100 points across listed parameters.

The universities were then ranked based on their overall perceptual scores and the list/shortened to 75 universities.

Of these, 50 shared the factual data on infrastructure, placements, academic input, research and publication, as well as faculty. To get the overall score, a weightage of 50 per cent was applied to the overall perceptual score and 50 per cent to overall factual scores. After assigning these weights, the score was indexed to 100.

nology into the country's sixteenth IIT. The vice-chancellor of the university has submitted a plan of ₹1,000 crore to the Planning Commission to set up a centre of translational research that will bring together IT experts, biotechnologists, agriculturists and social scientists to contribute to the development of different sectors.

Like BHU, Calcutta University has moved a notch up this year. Occupying the third position, the university stands head and shoulders above the rest as its faculty is leading the innovation

charge. Sample this: the faculty members of science and technology departments have applied for 28 patents out of which 14 have been approved.

INDIA TODAY

JNU, as the fourth best varsity in the country, meanwhile has been successful in sustaining its unique academic culture. Every

year new facilities are introduced to enrich the student experience and in 2011 the university added centres for media research, census and inclusion and exclusion.

The top five ranking may not have had too many changes this year, but there are universities that are slowly but surely emulating the example of the best institutions. Apart from AMU, Gauhati University, Ranchi University, North Eastern Hill University and Mangalore University make the list of the first five fastest risers this year.

THE TOP 10 UNIVERSITIES

- 1 Delhi University, Delhi
- 2 Banaras Hindu University, Varanasi
- 3 University of Calcutta, Kolkata
- 4 Jawaharlal Nehru University, Delhi
- 5 Aligarh Muslim University, Aligarh
- 6 Osmania University, Hyderabad
- 7 University of Madras, Chennai
- 8 Allahabad, Allahabad
- 9 University of Hyderabad, Hyderabad
- 10 Jamia Millia Islamia, Delhi

Dainik Jagran ND 18/05/2012

P-III(JagranCity)

दिल्ली कैट में बनेगा पहला फुट ओवरब्रिज

पश्चिमी दिल्ली, जागरण संवाददाता : तीन करोड़ 22 लाख की लागत से दिल्ली कैट इलाके में पहले फुटओवर ब्रिज (एफओबी) का निर्माण किया जाएगा। एफओबी के डिजाइन के लिए आईआईटी के विशेषज्ञों की मदद ली जाएगी। दिल्ली कैट इलाके में बनने वाला यह फुटओवर ब्रिज सागरपुर फ्लाईओवर व दिल्ली कैट फ्लाईओवर ब्रिज के बीच में बनाया जा रहा है। इन दोनों फ्लाईओवर के बीच में दिल्ली कैट बोर्ड का एक स्कूल है। यह सड़क काफी व्यस्त है। लिहाजा, बच्चों को सड़क पार करने में काफी दिक्कत होती है। दुर्घटनाओं की आशंका हमेशा बनी रहती है। इसे देखते हुए यहां लंबे समय से फुटओवर ब्रिज की आवश्यकता महसूस की जा रही है। दिल्ली छावनी परिषद के जनसंपर्क अधिकारी विभुरज ने बताया कि पीडब्ल्यूडी से मिले

अनापत्ति प्रमाणपत्र के बाद फुट ओवर ब्रिज निर्माण के लिए टेंडर किया जा चुका है।

आईआईटी से ली जाएगी

तकनीक सलाह

फुटओवर ब्रिज के निर्माण के लिए दिल्ली छावनी परिषद आईआईटी से तकनीक सलाह लेगी। परिषद के जनसंपर्क अधिकारी विभुरज ने बताया कि जैसे ही इसका डिजाइन फाइनल होगा, निर्माण कार्य शुरू कर दिया जाएगा। उन्होंने बताया कि इस फुटओवर ब्रिज में कई सुविधाएं होंगी। इसमें स्वचालित सीढ़ी व रैप लगी होगी।

नेहरू स्टेडियम के फुट ओवरब्रिज का काम शुरू : नई दिल्ली, जासं : लोक निर्माण विभाग ने निर्माण तकनीक को लेकर विवादों में रहे जवाहर लाल नेहरू स्टेडियम के दोनों हैंगिंग फुटओवर ब्रिजों पर काम

फिर शुरू हो गए हैं। सरकार ने इसकी स्वीकृति कुछ समय पहले ही दी थी। इस काम को पूरा करने की जिम्मेदारी ब्रिटेन की मैक्लॉय कंपनी की जगह अब फ्रांस की कंपनी को दी गई है। लोक निर्माण विभाग के वरिष्ठ अधिकारी कहते हैं कि फुटओवर ब्रिज के लिए सस्पेंडर फ्रांस से आने हैं, जिसमें कुछ समय लग सकता है। जो सामान हमारे पास उपलब्ध है, उससे काम शुरू कर दिया गया है। लोक निर्माण विभाग ने तकनीक नहीं बदली है। इसकी डिजाइन में मामूली परिवर्तन किया गया है। हैंगिंग सस्पेंडर राड में कुंडे की जगह अब चूड़ी का इस्तेमाल किया गया है, क्योंकि इसी कुंडे के टूट जाने से हादसा हुआ था। बारापुला पर नेहरू स्टेडियम के पास के इन दोनों फुटओवर ब्रिजों के काम राष्ट्रमंडल खेलों के लिए 2010 में शुरू किए गए थे।

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MPs oppose curbs on internet; Sibal promises discussions

New Delhi: With MPs raising concerns over open-ended interpretations of restrictive terms in the rules seeking to regulate social media and internet, the government promised to evolve a consensus on points of contention.

Telecom minister Kapil Sibal's assurance came at the end of an engrossing debate in Rajya Sabha on a motion moved by CPM MP P Rajeeve who said the rules violate freedom of expression.

He found support from leader of opposition Arun Jaitley who picked several examples to point out that terms or descriptions like "harmful", "blasphemous" and "defamatory" did not lend themselves to precise legal definitions.

Jaitley said what the government may find defamatory may not be seen in similar light by its critics.



IN A TIGHT SPOT

He also pointed to the difficulties of controlling technology and asked if it was desirable to do so.

Assuring MPs who sought the annulment of 'rules' which are aimed at regulating internet content, Sibal said, "My assurance to the House is that I will request the MPs to write letters to me objecting to any specific words. I will then call a meeting of the members as well as the industry and all stakeholders. We will have a

discussion and whatever consensus emerges, we will implement it."

The move to have rules flows from the government's annoyance with what it sees as disrespectful comments about Congress leaders. It had suggested pre-screening of content which ISPs were reluctant to consider. The motion for annulling the Information Technology (Intermediaries Guidelines) Rules notified in April 2011 was, however, defeated by a voice vote. Justifying the rules, the minister said 'these are sensitive issues' as most internet companies were registered abroad and not subjected to Indian laws.

TOI was first to report about the new rules that put a lot of the onus on intermediaries like internet service providers, FB and Twitter, to manage and monitor content

produced by their users. Web activists believe the IT rules are open to arbitrary interpretation and can be misused to silence freedom of speech.

Google, which participated in the public consultative process before the rules were framed, had said, "If Internet platforms are held liable for third party content, it'll lead to self-censorship and reduce free flow of information."

Moving the motion, Rajeeve said, "I am not against any regulation on internet but I am against any control on internet... In control, there is no freedom... These rules attempt to control internet and curtail the freedom of expression."

MPs felt the government should consider a regime where offensive content can be removed immediately after being posted rather than trying to sieve it out. **TNN**

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Copyright amendment Bill gets nod

New Delhi: The Rajya Sabha on Thursday approved the Copyright Amendment Bill which seeks to remove operational difficulties and address newer issues related to the digital world and world-wide web. The Bill could, however, be passed with the government dropping a provision of giving royalty to the principal director of a film.

The Bill, moved by HRD minister Kapil Sibal, also seeks to bring Indian laws originally enacted in 1957 in conformity with international norms and World Intellectual Property Organization.

Replying to the debate, Sibal said a clause with a provision of giving royalty to the principal director of a film has been dropped in keeping with the Parliamentary standing committee's suggestion.

Initiating the discussion, lyricist Javed Akhtar complained companies have sway over songs and the writers and singers do not get much from the commercially. "Music company dictates terms to even musicians like A R Rahman and others," he said. **TNN**