

# Newspaper Clips

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# B.Tech tag

**MORE OPTIONS** The cut-offs for these courses are likely to rise sharply



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**NEW DELHI:** The change in the terminology of the science and psychology degrees has generated a lot of interest in these courses and experts say, it will drive the cut-offs for these courses upwards.

The university will now give students a B.Tech degree for courses in computer science, electronics, food technology, instrumentation, polymer science and psychological sciences.

Experts said a B.Tech degree will attract more students as it will open up options for M.Tech courses. "A B.Tech degree has more currency as well as employability options. Students who were earlier running to the NCR to enroll themselves in little-known engineering colleges at a high cost will now prefer studying in DU," said a senior Delhi University official.

Students from computer science and electronics have been getting good placements for a few years now. Last year, the first cut-off for computer science at Hansraj College (one of the more popular colleges for this course) was between 97 and 99%. The cut-off for psychology at IP College last year was between 95% and 99%. The cut-offs in these courses are expected to go up by two points.

At the DU open days, a num-

## GRABBING EYEBALLS

- Computer Science, Electronics, Food Technology, Instrumentation, Polymer Science and Psychological Sciences to be given a B.Tech tag
- Will make students eligible for M Tech degrees
- A number of foreign universities group psychology under the science faculty

ber of questions are about the new terminology and how it affects the course. "There is a lot of interest among students who are now thinking about taking up these courses. Parents seem happy with the change," said JM Khurana, dean, students' welfare.

"A student of B.Tech computer science or electronics can now apply for an M.Tech at not just Delhi University, but also at IITs and other institutes," said the university official.

Economic Times ND 21/05/2013

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# MBA, a Degree in Happiness

Study shows MBA students are downright blissful after graduation

## LOUIS LAVELLE

Does an MBA make you a happier person? Reading the results of a new survey by MBA50.com, it's hard not to come to that conclusion.

MBA50.com, a website that covers 50 top business schools, surveyed 1,100 current students from 12 of the world's leading business schools and asked them three questions: How happy were you 12 months before you started your MBA programme, how happy are you now and how happy do you think you'll be after you graduate?

The results show a clear happiness progression. On a scale of 1 to 10, 1 being extremely unhappy and 10 being extremely happy, the MBA students reported that they weren't exactly giddy with anticipation before starting their programmes (5.98), but got significantly happier once they started (7.71) and will be downright blissful after graduation (8.53). MBAs in every world region save one reported increased levels of happiness in school and after gradua-

tion; those in Australia Pacific will get a little crankier after graduation for reasons not explained.

The happiest students of all were in the US and Canada (8.3). The most miserable: those in Central and South Asia (7.68) followed closely by Western Europe (7.72) where double-digit unemployment in Spain and Greece must have many worried. Asked what aspect of their MBA programmes made them the happiest, 42.2% said "self-development" followed by career progression (19%) and the pleasure of learning (11.6%). Financial reward (2.7%) came in a distant seventh.

There's been an abundance of academic happiness research in recent years, much of it by economists, and plenty of debate over its validity. Even researchers who study this stuff will tell you it's best to take any findings with a big grain of salt.

Naturally, gaining acceptance to a top MBA programme, and graduating, would increase happiness — but wouldn't achieving any big goal such as starting a family or getting a job? Sure, the experience of attending an MBA programme can be happiness-inducing. For one thing, it's a two-year break from work.

**Bloomberg BusinessWeek**

Hindu Chennai 20.05.2013 P-8

# 12 IIIT girls for NASA space settlement contest

They will present their projects at the 32<sup>nd</sup> Annual International Space Development Conference in the U.S.



**RARING TO GO:** Students of Nuzvid IIIT, who were selected for the NASA International Space Development Conference (ISDC) to be held from May 23. - PHOTO. CH. VIJAYA BHASKAR

Rajulapudi Srinivas

**NUZVID (KRISHNA DIST):** Girl students of Rajiv Gandhi University of Knowledge Technologies (RGUKT) have outshone boys by bagging 12 of the 13 slots for making it to the NASA Space Settlement Contest. They will be leaving for the U.S. via Chennai on Monday. Girls performed better than boys in designing projects on space settlement for humans.

The selected students will present their projects at the 32<sup>nd</sup> Annual International Space Development Conference (ISDC), to be held at San Diego, in the US, from May 23 to 27.

Of the 38 students selected for the NASA Ames Space Settlement Design Contest-2013, 29 were girls from

- The students design 13 projects on the title 'Creating alternative living for mankind on Space'
- 'We were inspired by Indian astronauts Kalpana Chawla and Sunitha Williams'

International Institute of Information Technology (IIIT), Nuzvid, but only 12 of them will make it to the U.S. Students of Pre-University and first year Engineering of the budding university have designed 13 projects on the title 'Creating alternative living for mankind on Space', said IIIT Director Ibrahim Khan.

"We were inspired by Indian astronauts Kalpana Chawla and Sunitha Williams. Humans are creating miracles in the history of space, missile and robotics technologies. But, the number of

women astronauts in India and other countries is very small. We want to become scientists in space and robotics technologies," say the budding engineers preparing for their foreign trip.

Some of the missions selected for ISDC are Amaranthos, Garuda, Atman, Titan, Magma, Athena, Divouces, and Sudarshan Chakra. The students in their projects focussed on how to provide luxurious life for man with food, housing, employment, solar energy, pollution-free environment and other facilities

on moon with latest technologies, for the next two decades.

"Our project 'Atman' indicates the successful journey of man to the soul of new space era. We explained how to produce power by using solar wind through electrical sail technology, which was developed by the US in January 2013," said V. Divya Sri, who is one of the three designers of the mission.

"The mission 'Titan' is aimed at designing plans on how to tap natural resources from moon and other planets and lead a comfortable life on space. In our project, robots will play a key role by utilising the latest technologies," said M. Hemalatha, who prepared 'Titan', along with two other girls H. Divya and S. Padmasri.

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# Pranab for more centres of excellence

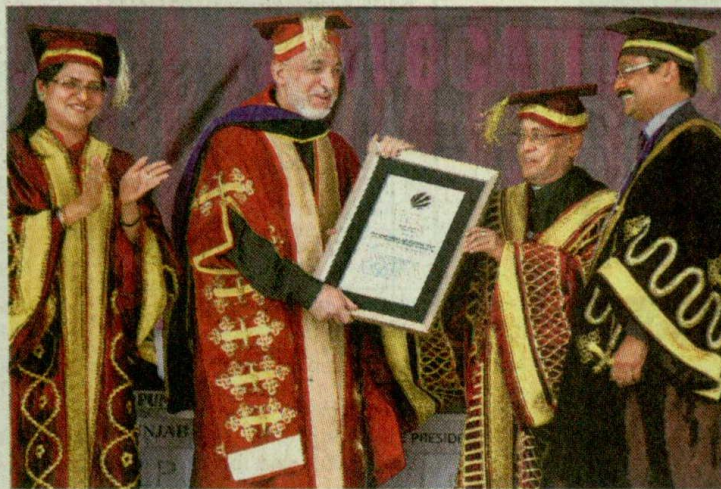
Special Correspondent

**CHANDIGARH:** Emphasising the need for more centres of excellence and wider vocational training, President Pranab Mukherjee on Monday urged the country's universities to take upon themselves the task of encouraging research in key areas to ensure that the country's population could become an asset and not a liability.

Mr. Mukherjee was delivering his convocational address at a privately run Lovely Professional University in Phagwara, near Jalandhar, where the Afghanistan President, Hamid Karzai was conferred an honorary doctorate degree.

As many as 7,801 regular and distance education students received their degrees.

Despite a legacy of Takshashila and Nalanda, none of the Indian universities figured in the top 200 across the world, Mr Mukherjee said expressing concern, "Outstanding personalities who won Nobel prizes were Indians but



*Afghan President Hamid Karzai (second left) receiving an honorary degree from President Pranab Mukherjee (second right) at the Lovely Professional University in Jalandhar on Monday.*

- PHOTO: AP

working in Universities outside India."

When every year the country was adding 12 million work force, Mr. Mukherjee advised education institutions to take advantage of technology and utilise "out of the box think-

ing" for innovative measures to introduce more vocational courses.

He said it was unfortunate that less than seven per cent of the total workforce had received vocational training.

Speaking on the occasion,

Mr. Karzai, who arrived late because his plane broke down "fortunately on the ground" expressed concern that years of strife had led to a situation where his country suffered due to lack of higher education.

He said that living up to the expectations of a friend, India has given 2,000 scholarships to Afghan students.

He said that India had also gone beyond its means to provide a two billion dollars aid for rebuilding Afghanistan.

In his message to students, Mr. Karzai said, "You are the citizens of India and citizens of the world and you represent a country that is fast rising in economical, industrial and social growth. Your presence is felt all around. Keep progressing and at the same time, remember your culture and use your energy for the country's welfare".

Punjab Governor Shivraj V. Patil, presided while Chief Minister Parkash Singh Badal, was the guest of honour.

# DU plans fee waiver for SC/ST, EWS

**ON ANVIL** ■ Students to be exempt from tuition fee, may have to pay development charge

ADITI VATSA

NEW DELHI, MAY 20

**D**ELHI University (DU) is planning to waive tuition fee for students from the SC/ST categories and those from economically weaker sections (EWS). If cleared, the proposal will benefit around 13,000 students who take admission under the SC/ST category, almost a fourth of the number of undergraduate students in the university.

South Campus Director Umesh Rai said: "The university is looking at doing away with college fees for students from SC/ST categories and those from economically weaker sections in the general and OBC categories. The financial implications of bringing about such a

change are being looked into."

Regarding the modalities that need to be worked out before waiving fee for these students, Rai said: "We need to ascertain the nature of financial assistance that the university can provide students, give them financial aid or waive their fee."

One of the main issues raised by groups of teachers and students opposed to the implementation of the four-year undergraduate programme, is the increase in expenditure on the part of students because of the additional year of study.

To ascertain the background of students who will be exempted from paying tuition fees, the university administration will look at family income certificates that have to be

## ST STEPHEN'S WON'T REDUCE SEATS

**NEW DELHI:** St Stephen's College on Monday said it would not reduce the number of seats in undergraduate courses at the college. The college had earlier decided to drop 50 undergraduate seats from the new four-year undergraduate format due to "lack of infrastructure". The 50 remaining seats had been given to English and Economics departments. According to university officials, the DU administration had in-



formed St Stephen's College that it cannot reduce the number of students.

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provided by students, Rai said.

Although the amount that a student has to pay the college at the time of admission to an un-

dergraduate course varies across colleges, it is roughly in the Rs 8,000 to Rs 20,000 bracket. Students need to pay more money for

courses like computer science, that require the use of laboratories. At Deen Dayal Upadhyaya College, for instance, students seeking admission to BSc (Hons) Computer Science were required to pay Rs 23,220 under the three-year format. The amount was Rs 8,220 for other BSc (H) and BCom (H) courses, and Rs 7,920 for BA (H) English.

However, students are required to pay more than tuition fee. Colleges also charge development fee or maintenance charge from students. "We will speak to colleges about doing away with development fee too," Rai said.

The waiver in fee for SC/ST and EWS students follows the exemption granted to the physically challenged students last year.

HT Chandigarh

# Parents slam CBSE's limited timeframe

The board has decided to provide photocopies of OMR sheets and answer-key of IIT-JEE (main)

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**CHANDIGARH:** Students have criticised the limited timeframe they were given by the CBSE to apply for photocopies of their IIT-JEE (main) OMR sheet and answer-key.

For the first time, the Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) this year decided to provide photocopies of OMR sheets and answer-key of Indian Institute of Technology-Joint Entrance Examination (main) in lieu of Rs 500.

However, the board only gave a two-day time period - from May 14 to 15 - for this, inviting criticism from city students and their parents.

Radhika Mishra, who could not clear the entrance exam, said the time given to apply for the photocopies of their OMR sheets and answer-key was too less.

"How does the board expect us to make a Rs 500 demand draft and speed-post the application in time when we are already under pressure to get admission and sit for examinations?" she said.

It was the first time that the board had this year decided

**How does the board expect us to make a ₹500 demand draft and speed-post the application in time when we are already under pressure to get admission in colleges?**

**RADHIKA MISHRA**  
IIT-JEE candidate

**But, I think the students, too, realised that they got this facility a little too late, which resulted in some of them missing out**

official, Central Board of Secondary Education

to put in place a mechanism for providing photocopies of OMR sheets and answer-key to students. Earlier, students used to apply for the photocopies through Right to Information (RTI) applications.

A board official, speaking to HT over the phone from New Delhi, said the system was put in place to streamline the process. "Earlier, we used to receive lakhs of RTI applications. As we had to meet an RTI deadline, there was a lot of pressure on the board," the official, who did not wish to be named, said.

However, given the limited timeframe, the CBSE should not expect the RTI applications to stop. "Since the board did not give us enough time, I will make

it a point to apply through RTI," said Priyanka Garg, the mother of a student who qualified for IIT-JEE (advance) but not with satisfactory marks. "It would have been more convenient had the board given us enough time to apply."

The manager of a city-based coaching institute, too, had words of criticism for the board. Anil Verma, the managing director of GIIT-JEE Institute, said the board should have at least given a week's time. "What they did was wrong."

The CBSE official agreed that the board was at fault. "But, I think the students too realised that they had this facility a little too late, which resulted in some of them missing out."