

# Newspaper Clips

## May 25, 2013

Indian Express ND 25/05/2013 P-4

# IIT-D country's best for mech, electrical

NAVEED IQBAL

NEW DELHI, MAY 24

INDIAN Institute of Technology (Delhi) has been ranked the top college in the country for its mechanical and electrical engineering departments, according to the QS World University Rankings.

IIT-D secured the 43rd rank in mechanical engineering, followed by IISc, Bangalore, in the 60th position. IIT-D ranked number two in its chemical, civil and computer science courses. In civil engineering, IIT-Bombay was ranked the best college in India for these courses and 39th overall, while IIT-D, at 59th position overall, was second. The institute slipped to second position at rank 58 in the



**The institute was ranked second best in India for chemical, civil and computer science courses**

computer science course, losing out on the top rank by one position to IIT-Bombay.

IIT-Delhi's ranking has been inconsistent in the QS world rankings. In 2011, IIT-D's mechanical engineering course was in 40th position, which slipped to the 51-

100 rank range in 2012 and then climbed to 43rd position this year. In the electrical engineering course, the institute stood 41st in 2011 with 40 points and gained 37 points to secure the 30th rank in 2012. This year the institute has slipped to the 37th posi-

## **QS WORLD** University Rankings place the institute at 43rd for mechanical engineering

tion. The computer science course went from rank 43 in 2011 to 58 in 2013.

The institute's civil engineering course has failed to pick up and has remained between 51 to 100 (rank not specified) in the last three years.

According to its website, QS World University Rankings currently considers over 2,000 universities in the world and evaluates over 700, ranking the top 400. The institutes are ranked according to aca-

ademic reputation, employer reputation, citations per faculty, faculty-student ratio and proportion of international students and faculty.

First compiled in 2004, QS World University Rankings were conceived to "present a multi-faceted view of the relative strengths of the world's leading universities".

S N Singh, Deputy Director (Operations) at IIT-Delhi, said the performance of the institute was "very good". He said various aspects contributed to the inconsistency in ranks, one of which was the fact that IITs are not allowed to recruit international faculty or enrol international students. "The ratings are independently done by QS and we have no role to play," Singh said.

Times Of India ND 25/05/2013 P-6

# Govt denies IIT drainage data

Shreya Roy Chowdhury | TNN

**New Delhi:** Delhi Government commissioned Indian Institute of Technology, Delhi to draw up a Master Plan for the city's drainage system but it has not provided them all the information. The project, lead by Prof A K Gosain of the Department of Civil Engineering at IIT-Delhi, involves photographing drains and waterlogged areas.

Gohain, along with six faculty members, will be looking at the volume of water that has to be drained and if the drains are of adequate size and design. "The locals will know best which segments of the system are not functional — where there is stagnant water, etc," says Gohain.

Experts working on the project will need complete data that can be used for "simulation" to mathematically prove what can happen. However, the information provided by the Delhi Government doesn't include all the details. For instance, there isn't a full count of the bellmouths for storm drains or manholes for the sewage system, nor is there data on the grades, slopes and actual layout of the drains. The team will need the assistance of about 4,000 volunteers to gather, maintain and analyze the data. About 70 visitors, most of them students, had registered at IIT-D's I2Tech Open House held in April. But Gosain says that his team will need about 4,000 volunteers to cover each locality of about 4 sq km.

The photos of choked drains and similar problem spots will have to be sent to the team or uploaded directly for plotting on a map. "We have a detailed map of Delhi with geo-references. Every point on that map has coordinates. Information will be communicated to and stored in the server at GIS laboratory of IIT-D's civil engineering department. If photographs are taken with a 3G smartphone, the phone will automatically record the coordinates at which the photograph was taken. But the team is also experimenting with other ways of mapping data.

## National Duniya ND 25/05/2013

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### ‘जेईई मुख्य परीक्षा में उपस्थित छात्र 4 जून तक ब्यौरा दें’

नई दिल्ली (नेदु)। केंद्रीय माध्यमिक शिक्षा बोर्ड (सीबीएसई) ने जेईई मुख्य परीक्षा 2013 में उपस्थित होने वाले सभी छात्रों से 12वीं कक्षा एवं प्रवेश परीक्षा से जुड़ी सभी जानकारी बोर्ड को चार जून तक देने को कहा है। बोर्ड के एक अधिकारी ने बताया कि आईटीटी जेईई संयुक्त प्रवेश परीक्षा 2013 की नई प्रक्रिया के संबंध में पहले भी मुख्य परीक्षा में उपस्थित हुए छात्रों से 12वीं एवं प्रवेश परीक्षा का ब्यौरा वेबसाइट पर देने को कहा गया था।

अधिकारी ने कहा कि अभी भी कई उम्मीदवारों ने 12वीं कक्षा और प्रवेश परीक्षा से जुड़ी जानकारी की पुष्टि जेईई मुख्य की वेबसाइट पर नहीं दी है। इसलिए सभी छात्रों को दोबारा से सूचित किया जाता है कि जेईई मुख्य 2013 परीक्षा में उपस्थित होने वाले छात्र तत्काल 12वीं कक्षा और प्रवेश परीक्षा से जुड़ी जानकारी अपने बोर्ड को चुनते हुए वेबसाइट जेईईमेन.एनआईसी.इन से भेजे।

# IIM-A to help Army change its ways

Force at crossroads: Changes sought in 60-year-old officer selection process

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

In a major step to improve the quality of officers following recent incidents of face-offs between them and jawans, Army Chief General Bikram Singh has asked Indian Institute of Management (IIM), Ahmedabad to recommend changes in 60-year-old selection procedure of officers.

The elite institute in collaboration with Indian Military Academy (IMA), Dehradun is now conducting studies to change selection process of young men and women through Services Selection Board (SSB).

The two institutes will focus on improving tests to find Officer Like Qualities (OLQ) amongst candidates besides other tests like physical fitness, psychological analysis and group discussion, officials said here on Friday.

IIM will complete the study in one year's time and will give

its recommendations to the Army and government.

The Army Chief sought these changes in the wake of officers and jawans coming to blows in three incidents in the last two years indicating failure of command and officers not able to take decisions on ground, they said.

IIM was also asked to suggest ways to reduce the time taken to conduct tests by SSB which are generally spread over five days.

If a candidate clears these tests, he is asked to stay back at the recruiting centre for another three to four days for detailed medical examination and many candidates do not

want spend so many days due to their college or school examinations.

The SSBs can undertake only 60 batches in a year due to the lengthy procedure and the study would recommend changes to shorten the procedure for enhancing the number of candidates to be tried for selection.

The rate of in-take is also very low with only four to five per cent of the candidates clearing the process and the study will also at changes in improving the induction rate, they said. At present, the Army

## BTech Naval officers on deck!

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The Navy will get its first batch of officers with BTech degrees on Saturday after the service made it mandatory four years ago that all new officers will have this qualification to command hi-tech warships and aircraft now getting inducted.

This first batch of 60 officers will pass out from Naval Academy, Ezhimala, Kerala and Defence Minister A K Antony will take salute. These officers completed the four-year degree course awarded by Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU), Delhi, officials said on Friday adding these cadets were selected through Union Public Service Commission (UPSC) examination.

Explaining significance of this event, they said Navy is rapidly modernising its armada with the induction of indigenously built and import-

ed warships, aircraft and submarines and need officers well versed with latest technology developments and able to operate in network centric environment.

With rapidly changing ways fighting modern war, technology advances provide near real time situational awareness and reach, accuracy and lethality of weapons have attained unprecedented levels.

The complexity of modern day warfare together with induction of cutting edge technology in the Navy necessitated the need for highly trained men and women to operate, maintain and gainfully exploit state of the art platforms, they said.

Giving an example, officials said once a warship leaves the shore on long sea sortie it is on its own and if any fault is detected mid-sea, the new officers will be able to detect and rectify the malfunction as they

are familiar with new systems.

As regards the B.Tech curriculum, they said it was drawn up in conjunction with JNU and the All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE). B Tech training, at present, is imparted at the Naval Academy in two disciplines including electronics and communication engineering (ECE) and Mechanical Engineering (ME). On completion of a common curriculum in the first two years, cadets bifurcate into these two streams for the remaining two years.

On the issue of shortage of officers, they said as against the sanctioned strength of 10,000, the Navy, at present, has 8,000 officers.

The sanctioned strength will go up to 13,000 by year 2027, officials said adding the shortage will continue even then due to continuous of bigger warships, submarines and aircraft.

faces shortage of more than 12,000 officers at the cutting edge level which means actual fighting.

About the scope of the study, officials said it will review the techniques used in the selection and

suggest refinement in it with alternative tools.

Officer-like qualities tested in the candidates for the SSB process would also be reviewed by the study and they will be made relevant as per changing socio-economic environment.

The expert panel will also review the officer selection process of some foreign armies including the US and the UK besides other major forces in the world, officials said adding efforts are on to make selection fair and more transparent.



National Duniya ND 25/05/2013

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# आईआईएम की मदद लेगी सेना

नई दिल्ली (भाषा)। लगभग दस हजार अधिकारियों की कमी से जूझ रही भारतीय सेना के प्रमुख जनरल बिक्रम सिंह ने सेना की छह दशक पुरानी चयन प्रक्रिया की समीक्षा के लिए आईआईएम-अहमदाबाद से अध्ययन कराने के आदेश दिए हैं। ऐसा करके चयन प्रक्रिया को तेज और अधिक पारदर्शी बनाया जा सकेगा।

सेना के अधिकारियों ने शुक्रवार को बताया कि यह अध्ययन आईआईएम-अहमदाबाद के एक वरिष्ठ शिक्षक के अधीन होगा। उनसे सेवा चयन बोर्ड (एसएसबी) की अवधि में बदलाव संबंधी सिफारिश करने के लिए भी कहा जाएगा।

इस समय एसएसबी की अवधि



## नई कवायद

- छह दशक पुरानी है चयन प्रक्रिया
- एसएसबी की अवधि घटाने की सिफारिश

पांच दिन की होती है जिसमें अधिकारियों का चयन किया जाता है। लंबी चयन प्रक्रिया की वजह से एसएसबी एक साल में केवल 60 बैच

ले सकते हैं। अध्ययन चयन प्रक्रिया में शामिल होने वाले उम्मीदवारों की संख्या बढ़ाने के लिए एसएसबी की अवधि घटाने की सिफारिश करेगा।

सेना में चयन के लिए उम्मीदवारों की उत्तीर्णता की दर केवल चार से पांच प्रतिशत है। अध्ययन में ऐसे बदलावों की भी सिफारिश की जाएगी जिनसे यह उत्तीर्णता दर बेहतर हो सके।

अध्ययन के तहत अमेरिकी और ब्रिटिश सेना समेत दुनिया भर की दूसरी महत्वपूर्ण सेनाओं की अधिकारी चयन प्रक्रियाओं की भी समीक्षा की जाएगी। आईआईएम-अहमदाबाद तीन चरणों में एक साल के भीतर अध्ययन पूरा करेगा।

Times of India Pune 24-05-2013 P-10

# DIAT ties up with IIT-M for M.Tech course in Marine Sc.

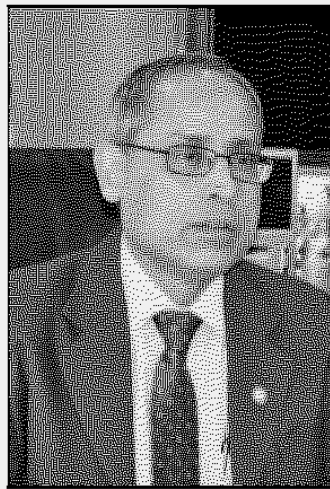
## DRDO-Funded Varsity To Also Offer Four 1-Yr PG Diplomas

Vishwas Kothari | TNN

**Pune:** The Defence Institute of Advanced Technology (DIAT), a premier deemed university funded by the defence ministry, has joined hands with the Indian Institute of Technology Madras (IIT-M) to introduce a two-year joint M.Tech course in underwater marine sciences and imaging systems, from the academic year 2013-14.

"The move is in line with our ongoing academic and research works related to the development of a variety of products and systems including torpedoes, sonars, decoys and submarines for the Indian navy," DIAT vice-chancellor Prahlada told TOI on Thursday. "For this, we need a better grasp of different aspects related to underwater sciences and underwater technology, especially those related to missiles etc." he added.

Prahlada said, "Underwater systems are an entirely different ball game for us. We have to understand marine dynamics, marine life, sources of communication and how to communicate, depth of water and materials that can withstand pressure



The move is in line with our ongoing academic and research works related to the development of a variety of products and systems, including torpedoes, sonars, decoys and submarines for the Indian Navy

**Prahlada** | VICE-CHANCELLOR, DIAT

of water etc."

As of now, the DIAT does not have any M.Tech course that can address these requirements, while the IIT-M has an established department offering studies in marine sciences. "We want to utilize their expertise for underwater defence systems," Prahlada said. "What they will do is teach some basic science, while the DIAT will teach practical applications apart from giving projects to the students at various defence research and development organization (DRDO) and naval facilities."

The new M.Tech course

will start with an initial intake of 10 seats and will be eventually taken to 20 seats. "The course will initially be offered to scientists and naval officers and subsequently, may open to civilians too. A lot of private sector industries are into technologies related to marines and tanks and they will need expertise in underwater marine science and imaging," he said.

The DIAT, funded by the DRDO, acquired a deemed university status in 2006 and has since developed into an institution that offers 12 M.Tech courses, a postgraduate (PG)

diploma in biosciences, MS by research and PhD programmes to DRDO scientists, officers from all the three arms of the services and even civilians studying on scholarships.

"We have 140 students, scientists and officers who are engaged in various PhD projects besides 200 others who are pursuing their M.Tech studies," said Prahlada. In recent years, the DIAT has adopted a partnership approach with various foreign universities to bring in latest academic and research in defence systems. "The focus of such partnerships is on teaching, joint research, exchange of faculty and joint guidance for PhD students," he said.

As part of this, the DIAT will start four PG diploma courses in the areas of artillery gun design, combat vehicle tanks, modeling and simulation and systems engineering. "All these PG diplomas will be in association with the Cranfield University, a leading defence university in the UK," said Prahlada. "We are also working on research projects in association with the Naval PG School, USA and Technion, Israel."

# PRIVATE UNIVS

## GROW UP

Nine of top 50 varsities are privately owned

THE SYSTEM of higher education in India is a mixture of several stark, and some contradictory, realities.

What is apparent is that India's best universities are run by the government. What is emerging is that India's smartest universities are in the private sector. What is unfortunate is that even the combined might of the two is not enough to meet the aspirations of millions of students.

Supply is not keeping pace with demand. It isn't just a matter of quantity. Quality is a serious problem — no Indian university, with the exception of an IIT or two, ever features in any global ranking of the top 100 or top 200 global universities. In an increasingly globalised marketplace, that puts Indians at a serious disadvantage. It might be unrealistic, even unfair, to measure Indian universities against global benchmarks. India is still an emerging economy and most of the top-ranking universities globally are from the



advanced economies. The real problem is that Indian universities hardly seem to be making a dent in the global pecking order whereas universities from competitor nations like China are slowly ascending the ladder.

The Indian universities system is stagnant, if not sick. It is still shackled by an overbearing government and an unreconstructed licence raj. It is the one sector untouched by the winds of reform. The mindset over private universities needs to change. In the rankings this year, five private universities feature in the top 30. Nine feature in the top 50. All the institutions have been in existence for many years and are steadily rising in the rankings.

Needless to say, it takes time for any university, whether government or private, to establish a reputation. That is precisely why the government needs to allow more universities to be set up immediately so that they can grow into reputed institutions over the next decade.

India Today

### HOW THE RANKINGS WERE ARRIVED AT

INDIA TODAY partnered with The Nielsen Company and conducted the fourth consecutive survey to determine the top universities in India in the arts, science, and commerce streams. To determine the ranks, a formula based on a perception score (from a structured interview conducted among academic experts) and an objective score (factual data furnished by universities) was evolved. Research was conducted to draw up a list of 170 universities eligible for the survey. Only those universities were considered which offer at least two postgraduate courses in arts, science and commerce.

The parameters include university reputation, quality of academic input, faculty, research, strengths, student care, infrastructure, innovation, admission procedure, placement record. This year, security arrangements for students and global exposure were also added.

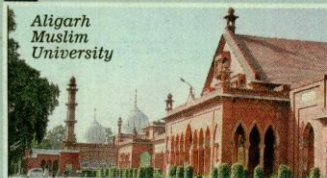
### THE TOP TEN

(University of Mumbai and Pondicherry University have broken into the top 10 this year)



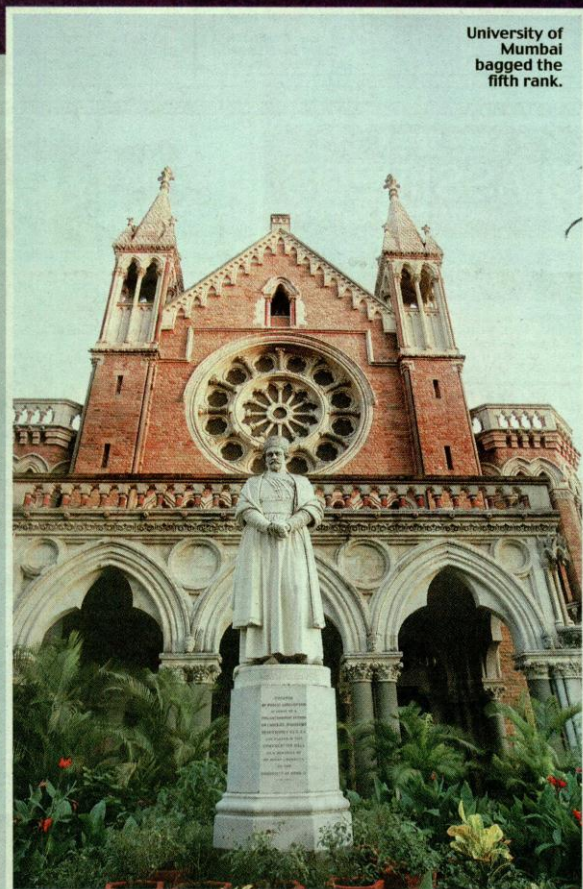
Delhi University

- 1 Delhi University, Delhi
- 2 University of Calcutta, Kolkata
- 3 Jawaharlal Nehru University, Delhi
- 4 Banaras Hindu University, Varanasi
- 5 University of Mumbai, Mumbai
- 6 University of Hyderabad, Hyderabad
- 7 Osmania University, Hyderabad



Aligarh Muslim University

- 8 Aligarh Muslim University, Aligarh
- 9 Jamia Millia Islamia, Delhi
- 10 Pondicherry University, Pondicherry



University of Mumbai bagged the fifth rank.

(The overall rank is based on the overall score comprising perceptual and factual scores, not on perceptual and factual ranks. Therefore, the overall rank of a university may be different from its individual perceptual and factual ranks.)

### TOP 5 PRIVATE UNIVERSITIES

(AS MANY AS NINE PRIVATE UNIVERSITIES ARE IN THE TOP 50)



BITS, Pilani

- 1 BIRLA INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY, PILANI
- 2 JAIN UNIVERSITY, BANGALORE
- 3 AMITY UNIVERSITY, NOIDA
- 4 CHRIST UNIVERSITY, BANGALORE
- 5 MANIPAL ACADEMY OF HIGHER EDUCATION, MANIPAL

### TOP 5 GAINERS

- University of Calicut, Malappuram (state university)
- Kurukshetra University, Kurukshetra (state university)
- University of Kerala, Thiruvananthapuram (state university)
- Amity University, Noida (private university)
- Utkal University, Bhubaneswar (state university)

### TOP 5 NORTHERN UNIVS

- DELHI UNIVERSITY, DELHI
- JAWAHARLAL NEHRU UNIVERSITY, DELHI
- BANARAS HINDU UNIVERSITY, VARANASI
- ALIGARH MUSLIM UNIVERSITY, ALIGARH
- JAMIA MILLIA ISLAMIA, DELHI

### TOP 5 EASTERN UNIVS

- UNIVERSITY OF CALCUTTA, KOLKATA
- VISVA BHARATI, SANTINIKETAN
- UTKAL UNIVERSITY, BHUBANESWAR
- GAUHATI UNIVERSITY, GUWAHATI
- BURDWAN UNIVERSITY, BARDHAMAN

### TOP 5 SOUTHERN UNIVS

- UNIVERSITY OF HYDERABAD, HYDERABAD
- OSMANIA UNIVERSITY, HYDERABAD
- PONDICHERRY UNIVERSITY, PONDICHERRY
- UNIVERSITY OF MYSORE, MYSORE
- ANDHRA UNIVERSITY, HYDERABAD

### TOP 5 WESTERN UNIVS

- UNIVERSITY OF MUMBAI, MUMBAI
- GOA UNIVERSITY, PANAJI
- SNDT WOMEN'S UNIVERSITY, MUMBAI
- GUJARAT UNIVERSITY, AHMEDABAD
- BHARATI VIDYAPEETH, PUNE

### TOP 5 LOSERS

- Gauhati University, Guwahati (state university)
- Burdwan University, Bardhaman (state university)
- Karnatak University, Dharwad (state university)
- Mahatma Gandhi University, Kottayam (state university)
- Ranchi University, Ranchi (state university)

# *Pie in the sky*

Government still doesn't get it. Aakash is no panacea for the problems in education

**U**NVEILED as a proud tribute to Indian inventiveness, Aakash, the Central government's \$35, low-cost tablet intended to bridge the divide between digital haves and have-nots, has been beset with problems from the outset. After years of trying and failing to meet the goals set for Aakash's success, the HRD ministry appeared to have divested its interest in the project, going by recent noises about how a focus on hardware as a cure for everything that ails the education system is misplaced. Yet, former HRD minister Kapil Sibal, whose brainchild it was, has now ridden to a most unwanted rescue. He has sought intervention from the PMO to address the procurement problems that have hobbled Aakash.

The fundamental problem with Aakash stems from its original ambition of being a nationalist response to the One Laptop Per Child (OLPC)

project, which was aimed at providing children in developing countries with cheap laptops. The technoutopianism that motivates such policies assumes that access to technology can, in and of itself, address the inadequacies in education delivery. It ignores questions of whether Aakash can compensate for bad teachers, or overcome the limitations posed by a lack of basic infrastructure in many parts of the country.

Like OLPC before it, Aakash privileges the tool over the outcome it is meant to achieve. And in Aakash's case, the insistence on the indigenous aspects of the project distracts from the conversation on transforming education, however misdirected it might be, turning it into a discussion on the merits of homegrown innovation instead. Affordable computing is a laudable goal. But why must the government get into the business of consumer electronics?