Newspaper Clips
May 3, 2012

Hindustan Times, ND 3/05/2012   P-7

I I T   M A D E   E A S Y

Now, IIT-JEE answers, scores on the Internet

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NEW DELHI: In a much-awaited move, those who took this year's Indian Institute of Technology Joint Entrance Examination (IIT-JEE) will be able to see their answers, the correct responses and individual scores on the JEE website from Thursday.

IIT Delhi, which conducted the examination this year, will post on the website the answers given by students in the exam. This facility allows students, using their roll numbers, to see the correct answers, what they had marked and their scores.

The scanned copies of each student's optical response sheets (ORS) will be uploaded on Saturday on all JEE websites.

"The final results will be displayed on May 18. Students can see the answer keys from Thursday and their ORS between May 5 and May 10," said RK Shevgaonkar, director, IIT Delhi.

The purpose of uploading the answer sheets and answer keys is to provide transparency and to give the students a chance to lodge complaints.

"We will deal with all complaints related to the mark-

> **We want to make sure that the student is satisfied with the evaluation and can see how it has been conducted.**
> **M BALAKRISHNAN**
> Dean, PG studies at IIT Delhi

ing of answers in the sheets. Say, a student has marked a circle partially and has not been given a mark for that. A committee of faculty members will analyse the student's claim and give marks accordingly," said M Balakrishnan, dean, post graduate studies at IIT Delhi.

Candidates can submit requests for revision in case of any perceived error in the machine-read responses through the website by May 10.

"We want to make sure that the student is satisfied with the evaluation and can see how it has been conducted. I don't, however, think we will receive many complaints."

This year over 4.79 lakh students took the test for close to 10,000 seats in the 16 IITs.

IIT-D to help set up Mauritius institute

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NEW DELHI: Professors from IIT Delhi may soon be called in to help set up a research centre in Mauritius.

IIT Delhi has come up with a plan to help the government improve the technical education facilities in the island nation.
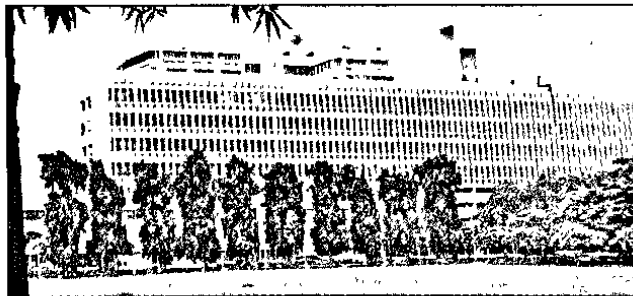
So far a feasibility report, in which IIT Delhi has given its nod, has been filed.

"The government of Mauritius has asked us to help them out with their plan to set up a full-fledged research facility. We have so far spoken about the feasibility of setting up a facility only for PhD students that could later be extended to master's and undergraduate programmes," said M Balakrishnan, dean, post graduate and research, IIT Delhi.

The cost of the programme will be borne by the Mauritius government alone but some IIT Delhi faculty members will be in Mauritius for some time as mentors.

"The research centre will be able to use our curriculum and some of our teachers will go there initially but it will be a self sustaining centre," added Balakrishnan.

■ **IIT Delhi professors will acts as mentors.**   **HT FILE PHOTO**

Mint ND 3/05/2012   p-5

BRINGING TRANSPARENCY

IITs to make JEE answer papers public

Test answers will be uploaded by the IITs today, while the answer papers will be on display from 5 May

BY PRASHANT K. NANDA
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NEW DELHI

The Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs) will display online the answer papers of all candidates who appear for the joint entrance examination (JEE) before the final ranking is prepared to make the process transparent, starting with the test that took place last month.

The answer sheets of all the 480,000 candidates who sat for the exam seeking a berth in the prestigious engineering and technology institutes will be uploaded on 5 May, G.B. Reddy, JEE chairman, said on Wednesday. The results and ranks will be announced on 18 May.

"The move will be a key step in bringing transparency in high-stake entrance exams and improve the trust of students and parents in the IIT system," Reddy said.

The test answers will be uploaded by the IITs and JEE Thursday, while the optical response sheets (ORS), or answer papers, will be on display from 5 May by the IITs and JEE. Stu-

dents can download their answer papers after registering on the respective websites.

"If any individual students has any complaints about his answer paper, then he/she can file a complaint online between May 5 and May 10," IIT Delhi director R.K. Shevgaonkar said. IIT Delhi is the organizing IIT for JEE this time. If a student complains of any discrepancy in the marks awarded, then the respective answer paper will be verified manually before 15 May. "After the rechecking is done, we will put out the final result/ ranks on the pre-decided date," the director said.

"IIT-JEE is evolving and we would try to be as transparent as possible."

Reddy said the decision was taken by the 13-member joint implementation committee of the IITs.

In August 2011, the Supreme Court ruled that examination answer sheets must be made public under the Right to Information (RTI) Act. A bench comprising justices R.V. Raveendran and A.K. Patnaik dismissed petitions filed by various public examination agencies, while upholding a 2009 judgement of the

> If a student complains of any discrepancy, then the answer paper will be verified before 15 May

Calcutta high court on this issue.

The ruling followed an appeal in the apex court by the Central Board of Secondary Education, the West Bengal Board of Secondary Education, the West Bengal Council of Higher Secondary Education, the University of Calcutta, the West Bengal School Service Commission and the Assam Public Service Commission against the high court's order, *Mint* reported on 9 August last year. The voluntary move by the IITs is the first by any leading institute, said S.M. Ishtiaque, deputy director, administration, IIT Delhi.

At last month's entrance exam, students were allowed to take a "carbon copy of the answer sheet after they gave the entrance exam and now we are giving them the evaluated answer papers containing all details about which question has secured how much marks".

Students welcomed the move and the prospect of seeing their mark sheets before the final ranking is announced. "Technically, by 3 May, we will know how we have done in the exam and by 5 May, the answer paper will be in our hand. This gives a

lot of peace of mind," said Rajiv Kumar, an IIT aspirant.

While the move towards transparency will be a model for all public exam conducting bodies, it gives the IITs a chance to defend JEE against any possible attempt by the government to dilute the test's stature as it bids to establish a common entrance exam for all engineering colleges across India.

"Going by the track record of the IITs, it's better to keep the JEE to maintain quality. The opposition has been conveyed by respective IITs to the HRD (human resource development) ministry. The individual IIT senates are now debating the issue," said a member of the IIT Delhi faculty who did not want to be named. *Mint* reported on the IIT-ministry tussle on 17 April.

Shevgaonkar said there was no disagreement with the central government but there are concerns over the new format proposed by the government that tentatively is to come into existence in 2013.

He said this left little time for making such a change as the IITs generally give two years' notice before altering the format. Also, it will be difficult for all school boards to publish their results before the IIT-JEE as a default by even a single board can affect the entrance exam, Shevgaonkar said. The school board result is important as the HRD ministry wants the IITs to give a 40% weight for the Class 12 marks while preparing their merit list.

"To bring a common entrance in 2013 looks difficult," the director added. He said the IIT senates will put forth a fresh proposal to the ministry by 10 May.

Both the faculty and IIT alumni associations are opposing the plan to do away with JEE and have a common entrance test.

Indian Express ND 03/05/2012

P-12

JEE answers on web today, results May 18

IT|PV

NAVEED IQBAL

NEW DELHI, MAY 2

ANSWERS of last month's IIT joint entrance examination (JEE) will be uploaded on the JEE website tomorrow, over two weeks before the results of the exam are declared on May 18. Answersheets of all applicants who took the test will be put up on the site between May 5 and May 10, officials said today.

"We will display the evaluated optical response sheets so that candidates who have complaints regarding marking have the chance to point out problems, and ensure the assessment is satisfactory," said R K Shevgaonkar, the director of IIT, Delhi, which organised this year's exam.

Shevgaonkar added that response sheets were displayed online last year as well, but only after the declaration of results. "A change of even a point can move ranks by hundreds. So this time we decided to upload answersheets before announcing the results so that making changes in the final list can be avoided," he said.

G B Reddy, chairman of JEE 2012, said, "Students can view their answerscripts on the site and compare their answers with the answer key and the score given against each question. If they have a complaint, they can register it on the website itself."

Complaints would be assessed manually by a committee of IIT officials, and the reassessment would be final, Reddy said.

Times of India ND 03-May-12   P10

IIT answer sheets to be posted online

New Delhi: IIT aspirants will now get to see their evaluated answer scripts of the Joint Entrance Examination even before the result is declared on May 18. IIT Delhi, which organized JEE on April 8 this year, has decided to upload the checked optical response sheets of every candidate on the JEE website. The sheets will be available online only for six days from May 5 to May 10.

During this time, candidates can go through the evaluation and point out any discrepancy or error in checking. IITD will consider all complaints and update scores, if required, before preparing the fi-

JEE 2012

ZONE	CANDIDATES REGISTERED	CANDIDATES APPEARED
IIT BOMBAY	77,322	73,351
IIT DELHI	74,743	70,666
IIT GUWAHATI	62,160	59,382
IIT KANPUR	82,679	78,989
IIT KHARAGPUR	65,362	61,833
IIT MADRAS	77,970	71,980
IIT ROORKEE	66,492	63,441
TOTAL	5,06,728	4,79,642*

*All these candidates can check their answersheets online from May 5 to May 10

nal merit list.

This is for the first time that IITs will show evaluated ORS to candidates. "It is possible that sometimes the scanner might not read an answer if the candidate has not filled the response bubble completely. Candidates can go through their optical reader sheets and if they do not find the evaluation satisfactory, they can lodge a complaint online," said Professor R Shevgaonkar, director, IIT Delhi. Nearly 4.8 lakh candidates had appeared in JEE this year. Since JEE is held in two parts, each candidate had two ORS which will now be uploaded. A candidate can access the ORS using his or her date of birth and registration number.

The administration will consider an answer only if the response bubble has been dar-

kened more than half. IITD officials also clarified that there will be no scope for changing the answers as the ORS will be uploaded only as an image. Also, there will be no scope for questioning the answer keys or the evaluation process. "This facility will enable students to highlight any technical glitches. They'll know the marks scored for each question. Representatives of all IITs will meet after May 10 and the revision process will be carried out between May 11 and May 14. Te updated responses will be reflected in the ORS by May 15," said JEE chairperson Professor G B Reddy. The ranks will be clear only on May 18.

HINDU ND 3-5-2012 P-4

Now IIT aspirants can ask for revision of exam results

Answer keys, optical response sheets, machine-read responses and marks scored to be put on website today

NEW DELHI: Indian Institute of Technology aspirants, who took the IIT-JEE this year, will be able to know and ask for a revision of their exam results before the ranking is out. IIT-Delhi, which conducted the exams this year, intends to display on all the JEE websites the answer keys, the optical response sheets as well as the machine-read responses and marks scored, enabling students to cross-check whether their answers were marked properly by the machine and, if not, then request for a revision.

"The IIT-JEE paper has

- **Other details to be put up from Saturday**
- **Final merit list will be out by May 18**

only objective type questions in which the candidates are supposed to circle the right answer and the machine is automated to mark right and wrong. Sometimes, the students do not circle properly or put a tick mark, confusing the machine which marks the answer wrong," said IIT-Delhi Director Prof R. K. Shevgaonkar here on Wednesday.

"The machine reads about 3,000 sheets per minute.

This whole initiative is to give a chance to the students before we come out with the ranking. IIT exams are so competitive that one mark can shift the rank of a student by hundreds. This will change the rules of the game altogether," he added.

"On Thursday, the answer keys will be available on the website, then the optical sheets as well as the machine read responses and marks scored will be displayed for

five days from Saturday up to May 10. Candidates can during this period submit revision requests online in case they think there is an error in the machine read responses. This facility will remain open till 5 p.m. on May 10," said Prof. G.B. Reddy, who is in-charge of the exams.

He added that representatives from all the IITs would sit together and shift through all the revision requests manually. "Sometimes, if there is no clarity on whether the student had actually circled, marked or ticked the right answer, we will see whether at least 50 per cent of the marking, in whichever form, is leaning toward the

correct answer," he said, brushing aside concerns that there would be frivolous requests from students and coaching centres. "I am confident of not getting useless

complaints," he said, adding that the final merit list will be out by May 18.

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'IIT-JEE reforms difficult'

NEW DELHI: Indian Institute of Technology, Delhi, on Wednesday expressed its doubts over the feasibility of the changes sought to be introduced in IIT-JEE by the Union Human Resource Development Minister Kapil Sibal in 2013.

"It is extremely difficult for the reforms to be in place

by 2013," said IIT-Delhi Director Prof R. K. Shevgaonkar.

"It has been suggested that Board exams be taken into consideration for admissions and that the IIT-JEE include analytical type questions," he said. "There is the CBSE, ICSE and State Boards and their results come at different times. Now it will be extremely difficult for us

to judge the applications at different points of times that too with each Board having different criteria for awarding marks. If we bring in analytical questions, we will have to mark them manually since our machines can only identify objective type questions," he said, adding that there were limits to what a machine could do.

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Deccan Herald, ND
3/05/2012   P-4

See your checked answer sheet on IIT website

NEW DELHI: To make evaluating process of Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Joint Entrance Exam (JEE) more student friendly, the premier institute has decided to post answer keys and students' answer sheets on its website.

"The answer keys will be displayed on all JEE websites on May 3. Whereas the answer copies (Optical Response sheets-ORS) of all the candidates will be displayed from May 5 to May 10 along with the machine read responses and the marks scored," said R K Shevgaonkar, IIT-Delhi director on Wednesday.

The answer copies (optical response sheets) of all the candidates will be displayed from May 5 to May 10 along with the marks scored

Check scores

According to Shevgaonkar, the move was introduced to help candidates to check their scores as well as send revision requests, if any before the result was announced.

"If the, student has any doubt, then he can log on to the website and can complain. There would be a group of faculty from all IITs which will see if the complaints are genuine and if there is an error, and then the correction will be done," he said.

Candidates can submit revision requests online in case of any perceived errors in the machine read-responses.

The facility for submitting the revision requests online will be closed on May 10. The result will be displayed on May18.

"We want to make the student see (the ORS) and be satisfied with the evaluation," he said and added that he expected few complaints.

This year over 4.79 lakh students wrote the exam.

The human resource development ministry is planning to introduce a national common examination ISEET (Indian Science Engineering Eligibility Test) for admission to all central-level engineering institutes like IITs from 2013.

If the proposal materialises, JEE 2012 would be the last IIT-JEE entrance test.

Performance in the school board exam may also be considered for admission from 2013 onwards.

DH News Service

Indian Express ND 03/05/2012

P-12

JEE answers on web today, results May 18

IT|PV

NAVEED IQBAL

NEW DELHI, MAY 2

ANSWERS of last month's IIT joint entrance examination (JEE) will be uploaded on the JEE website tomorrow, over two weeks before the results of the exam are declared on May 18. Answersheets of all applicants who took the test will be put up on the site between May 5 and May 10, officials said today.

"We will display the evaluated optical response sheets so that candidates who have complaints regarding marking have the chance to point out problems, and ensure the assessment is satisfactory," said R K Shevgaonkar, the director of IIT, Delhi, which organised this year's exam.

Shevgaonkar added that response sheets were displayed online last year as well, but only after the declaration of results. "A change of even a point can move ranks by hundreds. So this time we decided to upload answersheets before announcing the results so that making changes in the final list can be avoided," he said.

G B Reddy, chairman of JEE 2012, said, "Students can view their answerscripts on the site and compare their answers with the answer key and the score given against each question. If they have a complaint, they can register it on the website itself."

Complaints would be assessed manually by a committee of IIT officials, and the reassessment would be final, Reddy said.

Tribune, ND 3/05/2012

P-3

Now, JEE websites to display results

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

NEW DELHI, MAY 2

In a major move for the benefit of thousands of engineering aspirants, IITs have decided to post answer keys of the Joint Entrance Examination (JEE) 2012 as well as the answer copies of the students on their websites.

IIT Delhi director R K Shevgaonkar today said, "While the answer keys of the exam will be displayed on May 3, the evaluated optical response sheets (ORS) of all the candidates will be displayed from May 5 to 10 on all the JEE websites."

"The aim is to provide students a window to lodge complaints, if any, before the results are announced. If the students have any doubt, they can log on to the website and complain. There would be a group of faculty from all the IITs who will see if the complaints are genuine and if there is an error, it will be corrected. The actual result will be displayed on May 18. Before that the evaluated ORS will be available on the website from May 5 to 10. Students can log on to the website and see their ORS," he said at a media interaction today.

This year over 4.79 lakh students sat for the examination, billed one of the toughest competitive tests. The move comes even as the government is preparing the ground for holding a single common entrance test for admission to undergraduate programmes in IITs and other technical and science institutes from next year.

Pioneer ND
3/05/2012 P-3

IIT to upload evaluated answer sheets on its website

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

After having given the carbon copy of the OMR sheets to the students who had sat for the Joint Entrance Examination for admission in the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) on April 8, the IIT will now be uploading the evaluated answer sheets of the candidates on its website.

The evaluated answer sheets will be available for viewing from May 5 to 10. The students will be able to view their evaluated answer scripts with marking of each answer. "In case a student finds an error in the marking or feels that the any of their answers has not been evaluated properly, he can make an online complaint for the same," informed the Director of IIT Delhi Professor RK Shevgaonkar. The student needs to enter his roll number along with the application number and date of birth to view their evaluated scripts.

The student query will then be addressed and re-evaluated if needed by a team of faculty members of the various IITs. "From May 11 to May 14, the faculty will be re-looking at the grievances, and if a complaint is found to be genuine the answer sheets will be re-evaluated," added the Director.

The final result of the IIT-JEE entrance will be out on May 18. The IIT says that the reason behind conducting the whole exercise of making the answersheets public is to ensure transparency in the working of the premium institution.

Hindustan ND 3/05/2012   p-5

आईआईटी जेईई की कॉपी छात्रों को देगा, कर सकेंगे अपनी कॉपी की जांच

मिलेगा सुधार का एक और मौका

नई दिल्ली | प्रमुख संवाददाता

आईआईटी की संयुक्त प्रवेश परीक्षा (जेईई) की मूल्यांकन रिपोर्ट परिणाम घोषित होने से पहले मिल जाएगी। अगर छात्रों को लगता है कि किसी तरह की गड़बड़ी हुई तो पहली बार परिणाम जारी. होने से पहले सुधार का एक मौका मिलेगा। छात्रों को तीन मई से आईआईटी-जेईई-2012 की आंसर की उपलब्ध कराई जा रही है, जिसके बाद छात्र आगामी 5 से 10 मई के बीच ये जान पाएंगे कि उनकी कॉपी की जांच सही हुई है या नहीं।

आईआईटी के निदेशक प्रो.आर.के शिवगांवकर ने बताया कि छात्रों की सुविधा के लिए पहली बार ऑप्टिकल रिस्पॉंस शीट (ओआरएस) की कार्बन कॉपी उपलब्ध कराई जाएगी। इसके अलावा छात्रों को उनकी कॉपी की जांच सही हुई है या नहीं इसकी इसकी पड़ताल करने का अवसर मिलेगा।

आईआईटी-जेईई-2012 के चेयरमैन प्रो.जीबी रेड्डी ने बताया कि

नया नियम

- तीन मई को वेबसाइट पर होगी आंसर की कॉपी
- अपनी कॉर्बन कॉपियों का मिलान कर 5 से 10 मई के बीच छात्र अपनी कॉपियों की बारीकी से जांच कर सकते हैं

- सुधार प्रक्रिया पूरी होने के बाद छात्र 14 मई की शाम या 15 मई की सुबह तक सुधार के साथ अपनी उत्तर-पुस्तिका देख सकेंगे।
- परीक्षा में बैठे थे इस बार कुल 4,79,642 छात्र

फायदेमंद प्रक्रिया

ओआरएस शीट की जांच प्रक्रिया के तहत एक घंटे में 3 हजार कॉपियां जांची जाती है और इस बार करीब 4 लाख 79 हजार 642 परीक्षार्थियों ने पेपर वन व टू दिया सो मुमकिन है कि इतनी सारी कॉपियों में छात्रों की ओर से लगाये गए किसी सवाल के गोले को मशीन पढ़ न पाई हो।

इस सुविधा के तहत आने वाली शिकायतों पर 11 मई से काम शुरू होगा। समिति इस बात की जांच करेगी कि छात्र की मांग सही है या नहीं। मसलन यदि गोला 50 फीसदी लगा हुआ है और 50 फीसदी नहीं तो संभव

सूची बनाने का नया फार्मूला

भारतीय प्रौद्योगिकी संस्थान, संयुक्त प्रवेश परीक्षा 2012 में अब नए फॉर्मूले के आधार पर मेरिट सूची बना रहा है। इस बार से प्रवेश परीक्षा में प्रत्येक विषय में कम से कम दस प्रतिशत अंक लाने वाले और कुल 35 प्रतिशत अंक लाने वाले छात्र दाखिले के लिए योग्य होंगे।

है कि उसे अंक दे दिए जाये। लेकिन यदि यह प्रतिशत कम होगा तो अंक मिल पाना मुश्किल होगा। रेड्डी का कहना है कि 18 मई को अंतिम नतीजों के आधार पर मेरिट के आधार पर सूची उपलब्ध करा दी जाएगी।

नई एकल परीक्षा पर इस माह रिपोर्ट देगी आईआईटी

आईआईटी और केंद्र सरकार के इंजीनियरिंग संस्थानों में प्रवेश के लिए नई एकल परीक्षा पर आईआईटी फैकल्टी इस माह अपनी रिपोर्ट देगी। मई के मध्य में होने वाली बैठक में फैकल्टी अपनी रिपोर्ट को आईआईटी काउंसिल के सामने रखेगी। फैकल्टी की तरफ से जो प्रमुख सुझाव दिए गए हैं, उनमें टेस्ट को जल्दबाजी में 2013 से लागू नहीं करने, बहुविकल्पीय परीक्षा के साथ लिखित परीक्षा भी करने, परीक्षा को प्री और मेन दो भागों में विभाजित करने, प्री परीक्षा में 12वीं के अंकों को वेटेज अधिक और मुख्य परीक्षा में वेटेज कम देने के सुझाव शामिल हैं। कुछ ने यह भी कहा कि विभिन्न बोर्डों के अंकों में समानता लाने के लिए जो फार्मूला इस्तेमाल किया जा रहा है, वह ठीक नहीं है।

Mint ND 3/05/2012   p-5

EDUCATION DIPLOMACY

IITs ready to open Mauritius campus

By Prashant K. Nanda
prashant,n@livemint.com
....
NEW DELHI

Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs) are set to open their first overseas campus in Mauritius and a feasibility report has already been prepared.

This campus will be set up in collaboration with Mauritius University with support from the Indian as well as the Mauritius government. To be named International Institute of Technology (IIT), the institution will engage in research and development for the first five years.

"We have already given the feasibility report to the human resource development ministry as well as the Mauritius government," said M. Balakrishnan, who is spearheading the team in charge of the plan. "We are ready to start it this year but it depends on both the governments, as the proposal to set up the institute was taken by the Indian education minister and his mauritius counterpart," he said.

Human resource development minister Kapil Sibal and Rajesh Jeetah, Mauritius' minister of tertiary education, science, research and technology, had in June 2010 expressed a willingness to open an institute similar to an IIT in the island nation.

To start with, it will be a IIT-Delhi research academy with a global outlook, Balakrishnan said. "IIT Delhi will mentor the institute and we believe we will engage some 40 faculty members for the Mauritius centre," he said, adding that these professors need to give at least one month of their time for the campus—three weeks in Mauritius and one week in India dedicated for the offshore plan. According to the plan, the initial investment will be more than $20 million (around ₹100 crore).

Since Mauritius does not have a huge industry-linked economy, the course and research areas have to be global in outlook, Balakrishnan said. Both faculty and students will be global as well.

"Their industries are largely sugar and fisheries but we know that it's an international gateway and can be a hot destination for IT, electronics and e-commerce streams," he said.

A human resource development ministry official, who did not want to be named, said the ministry is discussing the report and is "quite optimistic".

IIT-Delhi director R.K. Shevgaonkar said the IITs want to make their presence felt overseas. "We now have the expertise and know how to help a country set up an IIT-like institute. It will have a huge impact on our brand image."

The aim is to start with research and not undergraduate courses. "If you start teaching undergraduate courses from the beginning then it will become a college, not an IIT-type institute, which is research-oriented," he said.

Amar Ujala ND 03-May-12   p7

मॉरीशस में आईआईटी रिसर्च सेंटर बनेगा

🔘) अमर उजाला ब्यूरो

नई दिल्ली। आईआईटी दिल्ली मॉरीशस में रिसर्च सेंटर बनाने में मदद करेगा। यह आईआईटी दिल्ली का एक्सटेंशन सेंटर नहीं होगा, बल्कि करिकुलम और मेंटरशिप देने का काम करेगा।

डिप्टी डायरेक्टर (फैकल्टी) प्रो. बालाकृष्णन एम ने बताया कि मॉरीशस सरकार ने मानव संसाधन विकास मंत्रालय से इस योजना के लिए सहयोग करने को कहा था। मंत्रालय ने इसके लिए आईआईटी दिल्ली को पत्र लिखा, जिसके बाद डॉ बालाकृष्णन के नेतृत्व में एक टीम मॉरीशस भी गई थी। इस संबंध में एक रिपोर्ट मंत्रालय को दी गई है। अब मंत्रालय क्या जवाब देता है, यह देखना होगा। अभी यह योजना केवल शुरुआती स्तर पर है, लिहाजा कुछ ज्यादा नहीं कहा जा सकता। इस संबंध में निदेशक प्रो आरके शेवगांवकर ने कहा कि अब हम इस स्थिति में हैं कि दूसरे देशों को मेंटरशिप दे सकें।

संयुक्त प्रवेश परीक्षा पर मुश्किल

नई दिल्ली। आईआईटी जेईई और एआईईईई के लिए इंजीनियरिंग की एक ही संयुक्त प्रवेश परीक्षा की योजना को वर्ष 2013 से लागू करने में मुश्किलें दिख रही हैं। आईआईटी दिल्ली के निदेशक प्रो आरके शेवगांवकर ने कहा कि इस संबंध में समाधान खोजे जा रहे हैं। इसे लागू करने को लेकर आईआईटी काउंसिल की एक राय नहीं बन सकी है। इस पर पर टीआर रामास्वामी कमेटी की सिफारिशों पर चर्चा हो रही है। फिलहाल तीन बातों पर विचार हो रहा है। अगर 2013 में संयुक्त प्रवेश परीक्षा लागू होती है तो क्या 2012 को बैठने का विकल्प मिलेगा। परीक्षा परिणामों में एकरूपता को लेकर और चूंकि दोनों परीक्षाओं का स्तर अलग-अलग है, इस स्थिति में देखना होगा कि कब तक संयुक्त प्रवेश परीक्षा कराने की योजना लागू हो पाती है।

Financial Chronicle ND 3/05/2012   P-10

Mission10X partners IIT-M to lift engineering education

Project extended to 25 states so far, 20,000 faculty members trained

S Shyamala

Chennai

WIPRO'S not-for-profit arm Mission10X has partnered with IIT Madras to improve quality of faculty in engineering education. The two institutions would collaborate in the areas of teaching and learning. They also intend to actively promote research in engineering education, joint authoring and publication of research papers in mutually beneficial areas.

Mission10X was created by Wipro in 2007 to enhance employability skills of engineering graduates. It has so far been extended to 25 states and has trained close to 20,000 faculty members across the country. Mission10X offers a certification programme, which is a layered set of capability building workshops for continuous professional development of teachers of engineering education. Dale Carnegie Certificate in high impact presentations for teachers; Cambridge international certificate for teachers and trainers, and Mission10X learning ap-

UPGRADING SKILLS: Mission10X was created by Wipro in 2007 to enhance employability skills of engineering graduates

proach certificate in innovation in engineering education are some of the programmes Mission10X offers through its portal.

These are primarily designed to shift the paradigm from teaching to learning and transform the learning cultures in the institutions of engineering education. NASSCOM has partnered Mission10X recently to adapt the latter's methodol-

ogy as backbone to faculty training in the country.

Professor Ajit Kumar Kolar, chairman of the Centre for Continuing Education at IIT-M, said, "There is an urgent need to enhance efficiency and effectiveness of teaching capabilities of faculty in higher engineering education, train the vast number of PhD scholars who don the role of teaching/research assistants and

promote research in engineering education. The MoU brings together an internationally reputed institute of technology education and the leading IT organisation diversifying into education technology to synergise their strengths to meet this need at the national level."

The country has about 3,-400 engineering colleges turning over 5.5-lakh engineers every year. Though graduates from the top institutions fare well, there is a steep decline in quality beyond these tier I institutions. There is a recurring need for research capabilities among new graduates to improve their employability options. In such a scenario, institutions in India need to integrate research study as part of their curriculum, he added.

As a part of this understanding, Mission10X and IIT Madras will also collaboratively work in the development of Unified Learning Technology Platforms (UTLP) to bridge the technology gap in engineering education.
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HINDU ND 3-5-2012 P-2

Facebook's Indian flavour

OFFBEAT A relatively small e-commerce start-up Tagtile, co-founded by two IIT graduates, was acquired by Facebook last week.

An innovative start-up founded by two IIT alumni in the U.S. is the latest acquisition of the social networking giant Facebook.

Tagtile, an e-commerce start-up with a focus on helping retailers build customer loyalty, was founded by Soham Mazumdar and Abheek Anand in March, last year. And for a company that launched its pilot project across some stores in San Francisco and other parts of the U.S. as early as November last, recognition has come knocking at their door real fast.

The acquisition, coming close on the heels of the big Instagram take-over, has received relatively less coverage. But make no mistake, the big technology websites, of the likes of U.K.'s The Register, are saying it could herald new avenues in e-commerce in the mobile space for Facebook.

An irony?

The company's co-founder Abheek Anand, currently in New Delhi, says there could have been no better partner than Facebook for Tagtile. And while the obvious benefits are there — the 'undisclosed' sum Facebook paid and the fact that Abheek and Soham are now Facebook employees — there is also some irony in the acquisition of a company that was started to focus on customer loyalty. Its current service is being "phased out" now, ostensibly to be re-launched in a new avatar with Facebook.

The story of Tagtile, Abheek said in a telephonic interview to *The Hindu*, would be traced back to 2004, when he and Soham went to work in the Bay Area in the U.S. Soham was a graduate from IIT-Kanpur and Abheek from IIT-Delhi. They had known each other for a long time and wanted to start their own company. Even if it meant quitting secure jobs.

The Tagtile idea took shape last year when Soham was an engineer with Google and Abheek was working for cloud computing start-up Engine Yard. "We decided to work on a solution that combined the 'tap the phone' technology that was gaining some traction and use it in a smartphone shopping scenario," says Abheek.

The 'tap the phone' technology, Abheek is talking about, is the 'near-field communications' (NFC) technology Google has been working on for a few years. Smartphones that have the NFC chips will be able to communicate with other NFC devices, such as shopping check-out counters, and can be used instead of credit cards. But smartphones that have NFC chips are way costlier than the average mobile phones, and hence this technology has a cost factor.

DOING INDIA PROUD (Left) Abheek Anand and (right) Soham Mazumdar

His reasoning is that NFC has a very small penetration. Smartphone users often buy their devices on contract from service providers in the West, and for all practical purposes, a breakthrough in NFC is still some time away.

So what Abheek and Mazumdar developed was an alternative that worked similar to NFC but without the bells and whistles. The Tagtile consists of both the software service and a hardware device — a cube — that stores need to put up at their cash counters. Mobile phone users who have the Tagtile App on their phones can 'tag' a purchase on the cube. And there are rewards for a specific number of tags, say eight tags of coffee purchased at a café could entitle the buyer to a free coffee. Instead of using the radio waves communications model of NFC, the Tagtile communicates to the user's smartphone through a combination of technologies already available in most smartphones, including low-frequency sounds. This makes the technology accessible straightaway to millions of mobile phone users. Abheek and Soham claim to have patented the technology.

There are advantages in the system for retailers too. With it, shops will be able to keep track of their customers, something that other, more 'static' coupon solutions do not do. It takes customer loyalty couponing a step further, according to Abheek, and also makes it a social activity.

While Abheek is under obligation not to disclose any more details about the Facebook deal, there is no stopping us from speculating that pretty soon there could be some kind of social e-commerce-related solution from Facebook. And maybe just some of us will realise there was an Indian story in that.

KARTHIK SUBRAMANIAN

AAJ VARANASI 30.4.2012 P-1

एआईईईई परीक्षा देते छह मुन्ना भाई गिरफ्तार

लखनऊ/आगरा। उत्तर प्रदेश पुलिस की स्पेशल टास्क फोर्स(एसटीएफ) ने अखिल भारतीय इंजीनियरिंग प्रवेश परीक्षा(एआईईईई) में जालसाजी कर वास्तविक अभ्यर्थियों के स्थान पर दूसरे लड़कों को बैठाकर परीक्षा पास कराने वाले गिरोह के सरगना समेत छह मुन्ना भाईयों को आज आगरा में गिरफ्तार किया। आधिकारिक प्रवक्ता के अनुसार एसटीएफ को सूचना प्राप्त हो रही थी कि आगरा में एक गिरोह सक्रिय है जो एआईईईई परीक्षा में वास्तविक अभ्यर्थियों के स्थान पर फर्जी साल्वर्स को बैठाकर परीक्षा दिलाता है। इस सूचना एसटीएफ आगरा की फील्ड इकाई को अभिसूचना संकलन के दौरान जानकारी प्राप्त हुई कि कानपुर से कुछ साल्वर्स आये हैं जो चौधरी वीरी सिंह पब्लिक स्कूल दयाल बाग में पंकज शुक्ला, एयरफोर्स स्कूल में विनय वर्मा, राधा बल्लभ पब्लिक स्कूल अमर विहार (दयाल बाग) में सुरेन्द्र अग्निहोली एवं सीएनपीएस पब्लिक स्कूल राम नगर खन्दौली में राहुल एस भदौरिया के नाम से परीक्षा देंगे। प्रवक्ता ने बताया कि यह भी जानकारी प्राप्त हुई कि इन साल्वर्स को इनका सरगना बृजेश वर्मा लेकर आया है। सूचना पर चार टीमों

आगरा में एसटीएफ को मिली सफलता

का गठन किया गया। इन टीमों द्वारा आज न्यू आगरा, शाहगंज और खंदौली इलाके से बृजेश वर्मा(महाराजगंज), अभिषेक कुमार सिंह(अलीगढ),

एआईईईई...

अपार भटनागर(गाजियाबाद), एचबीआईटी कानपुर का इलेक्ट्रानिक्स का द्वितीय वर्ष का छात्र गजेन्द्र सिंह(मथुरा), एचबीआईटी कानपुर का इलेक्ट्रानिक्स द्वितीय वर्ष का छात्र विक्रान्त पटेल(रामपुर), एचबीटीआई कानपुर का छात्र बैजनाथ उर्फ बैजु अग्रहरी (संतकबीरनगर) एचबीटीआई कानपुर का छात्र है। इनके पास से ०४ अदद प्रवेश पत्र बरामद किए गये। परीक्षा समाप्ति के उपरान्त चारों साल्वर्स से पूछताछ की गयी तो ज्ञात हुआ कि इनके पास बरामद प्रवेश पत्रों पर फोटो इनके लगे हैं जबकि अन्य विवरण दूसरे व्यक्तियों के हैं। बृजेश वर्मा ने पूछताछ पर बताया कि वह पहले आकाश कोचिंग कानपुर में नौकरी करता था। गत एक वर्ष से वह द्रोणाचार्य कोचिंग सेन्टर के नाम से अपनी कोचिंग चला रहा है। इसी की आड में वह वास्तविक अभ्यर्थियों के स्थान पर साल्वर्स को बैठाकर परीक्षा दिलवाता है। अभ्यर्थियों से दो लाख रुपये लिये जाते हैं तथा साल्वर्स को ७० हजार से एक लाख रुपये तक की धनराशि दी जाती है। प्राप्त सूचनाओं को सत्यापित किया जा रहा।

Hindustan ND 3/05/2012   p-1

ऑफलाइन से चूके, ऑनलाइन दें

नई दिल्ली | कार्यालय संवाददाता

ऑल इंडिया इंजीनियरिंग एंट्रेंस एक्जामिनेशन (एआईईईई) ने ऑफलाइन परीक्षा में शामिल नहीं हो पाने वाले उम्मीदवारों को एक और मौका दिया है। ऐसे उम्मीदवार अब ऑनलाइन माध्यम में हिस्सा लेकर परीक्षा दे सकते हैं। इसके लिए पांच मई तक ऑनलाइन निवेदन दिया जा सकता है।

एआईईईई ऑफलाइन परीक्षा देने से चूके छात्रों को दोबारा परीक्षा देने का मौका जरूर दे रहा है लेकिन इसका फायदा सिर्फ बीई और बीटेक के लिए आवेदन करने वाले छात्रों को ही मिल पाएगा। गौरतलब है कि देशभर के विभिन्न एनआईटी, आईआईआईटी, सेंट्रल फंडिंग इंस्टीट्यूशन और अन्य इंस्टीट्यूट और विश्वविद्यालयों में बीटेक, बीई, बीआर्क व बी. प्लानिंग में

एआईईईई परीक्षा

- ऑफलाइन परीक्षा में चूके उम्मीदवार सीबीएसई वेबसाइट www.cbse.nic.in पर लॉग-इन कर सकते हैं
- आवेदन पत्र संख्या, रोल नंबर, जन्मतिथि आदि ब्योरा देकर कर पाएंगे ऑनलाइन परीक्षा के लिए आवेदन

04 चरणों में कराई जाएगी ऑनलाइन परीक्षा

64 हजार परीक्षार्थी इसमें होंगे शामिल

221 केंद्र बनाए गए हैं परीक्षा के लिए

7 मई को मौका नहीं

- ऑनलाइन परीक्षा 7, 12, 19 और 26 मई को होगी लेकिन ऑफलाइन परीक्षा नहीं दे पाए छात्र 7 को छोड़ बाकी तीन तिथियों के लिए आवेदन कर सकते हैं
- सीबीएसई की ओर से कहा गया है कि बोर्ड दूसरी तिथि भी दे सकता है लेकिन तभी जब निवेदन वाली तिथि पर सीट उपलब्ध न हो।

दाखिला मिलता है। देशभर में एआईईईई की ऑफलाइन परीक्षा का आयोजन 29 अप्रैल को हुआ था। इसके लिए 1735 परीक्षा केंद्र बनाए गए थे। ऑफलाइन परीक्षा के लिए करीब 10 लाख छात्रों ने

दिया था। बड़ी संख्या में छात्रों ने यह परीक्षा भी दी थी। लेकिन, जाम या किसी अन्य कारण से तमाम छात्र ऑफलाइन परीक्षा देने में सफल नहीं हो पाए थे।

- आईआईटी में भी सुधार का मौका : पेज–5

Business Line ND
3/05/2012
p-23

CNR Rao prize for IICT scientist

Our Bureau

Hyderabad, May 2

Dr S. Chandrasekhar, Chief Scientist and Head of natural products of the Indian Institute of Chemical Technology (IICT), has been selected for the CNR Rao national prize for chemical sciences for the year 2012-13.

He has been recognised for the work on total synthesis of natural products, especially of marine origin and development of green technologies useful for industrial and pharmaceutical sectors. The award has been instituted by the Chemical Research Society of India with the support of former students and colleagues of Prof. CNR Rao, the Chairman of the Prime Minister's Scientific Advisory Committee.
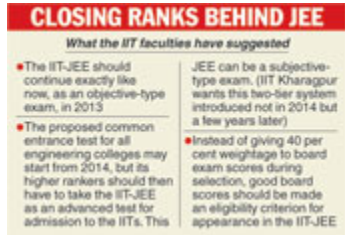
HT, Lucknow

BHU V-C WELCOMES DECISION

■ **BHU V-C Prof Lalji Singh**

■ Welcoming the decision, BHU vice-chancellor Prof Lalji Singh allayed fears of the varsity losing control over the new IIT.

■ Singh said: "The IIT-BHU will remain within the administrative control of the BHU. All fears of BHU losing control over the new IIT are baseless."

■ The IIT status to the IT-BHU would ensure more funds and thereby it would also ensure less financial burden on the BHU, he added.

The Telegraph, Calcutta, April 30

Teachers want IIT-JEE to stay

- Open to national tech entrance test if it is followed by own exam BASANT KUMAR MOHANTY

CLOSING RANKS BEHIND JEE

What the IIT faculties have suggested

- The IIT-JEE should continue exactly like now, as an objective-type exam, in 2013
- The proposed common entrance test for all engineering colleges may start from 2014, but its higher rankers should then have to take the IIT-JEE as an advanced test for admission to the IITs. This

JEE can be a subjective-type exam. (IIT Kharagpur wants this two-tier system introduced not in 2014 but a few years later)

- Instead of giving 40 per cent weightage to board exam scores during selection, good board scores should be made an eligibility criterion for appearance in the IIT-JEE

New Delhi, April 29: IIT faculties have demanded that the institutes be allowed to continue with their separate entrance exam, the IIT-JEE, a stand that could make it difficult for the government to replace it with a combined entrance test for all centrally funded tech schools.

The faculties are also against any dilution of the IIT-JEE's importance through weightage given to board marks during selection of students for admission. **(See chart)**

The Union human resource development (HRD) ministry had proposed scrapping the IIT-JEE in favour of a combined national entrance test, and giving 40 per cent weightage to the candidates' board exam marks during selection.

However, faced with opposition from the IIT faculties, the ministry decided to allow the matter to be debated at the institutes before a final decision was taken in June.

First, the issue was to be discussed at each of the seven older IITs' faculty association, then at each IIT's senate and then at the IIT Council.

The senate of IIT Kanpur and the faculty associations in Delhi, Mumbai and Kharagpur have met over the past two weeks and decided that the IIT-JEE should continue in its present form in 2013.

They are ready to accept the combined national entrance test from 2014 (Kharagpur wants it a few years later), but insist that it should be followed by the IIT-JEE in a two-tier exam system.

This IIT-JEE should be an advanced subjective-type exam rather than an objective-type one as it is now. Through it, the premier tech schools will select their students from among those who qualify in the proposed combined test.

As for the 40 per cent weightage to board marks, the IIT faculties have said that board scores should only be used to set an eligibility cut-off for the JEE: admission should be based solely on the students' scores in the entrance test.

A member of IIT Delhi's faculty forum, whose executive body met this week, explained how the two-tier exam system would work.

"Since the IITs together have nearly 11,000 seats, the top 55,000 qualifiers in the combined national entrance test will be allowed to appear in the IIT-JEE," he said.

"To ensure that the students do not neglect their board exam, their board performance will be an eligibility criterion for appearance in the IIT-JEE."

The IIT Kanpur senate, made up by the institute's professors, and the IIT Bombay faculty association have taken the same decisions. The general body of IIT Kharagpur's faculty association met last Thursday and decided the IIT-JEE should continue in its current form for the next few years.

"Our faculty association is not in favour of taking students through the proposed national (combined) test for at least two or three years. We want the IITs to examine the effectiveness of the proposed national test and later take a decision. Till that time, the IIT-JEE should continue," a faculty association member said.

The HRD ministry had set up two committees — one headed by IIT Kharagpur director Damodar Acharya and another by science and technology secretary T. Ramasami — to suggest reforms of the IIT-JEE. Both committees suggested the introduction of 40 per cent weightage to Class XII board marks apart from holding a test in mathematics, physics and chemistry.

The ministry then proposed a single national-level test from 2013, replacing the IIT-JEE and the All India Engineering Entrance Examination (AIEEE), for admission to about 100 centrally-funded tech schools, including the IITs, National Institutes of Technology (NITs) and the Indian Institutes of Information Technology (IIITs). Scores in that exam were to carry 60 per cent weightage.

IIT faculties, however, differed and met HRD minister Kapil Sibal earlier this month. Sibal then said the proposal for the combined national test had to be debated at the senates of all the IITs.

The ministry will next month hold a meeting of the IIT Council, the institutes' apex decision-making body, where the views of all the senates will be considered. The final decision will be taken by the Central Advisory Board of Education, the apex advisory body on education.