

# Newspaper Clips

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## IIT Council free from HRD ministry's clutches

**SELF-GOVERNANCE** The Council won't need ministry to take its administrative decisions; Plan may be approved on May 5

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**NEW DELHI:** The apex decision making body of the Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs) has broken free of the human resource development (HRD) ministry in a move that could be the first step towards allowing the IITs to govern themselves.

Empowered by independent staff and with a identity of its

own, the IIT Council will no longer need the HRD ministry to take its administrative decisions under the move, government sources have told HT.

The final decision on the plan — aimed at creating an IIT Council Secretariat — may be made at a meeting between senior HRD ministry officials and the IIT directors on May 5, the sources said.

The Council alone is empow-

**( IIT Council depends on HRD ministry to even invite members for meetings. All this will change )**

AN OFFICIAL

ered to appoint IIT directors and take any policy decisions binding across the top engineering schools — including their fees, reforms, administrative struc-

ture and any amendments to the law governing the Institutes.

"The IIT Council — the highest decision making body of the IITs — at present depends on the HRD ministry to even invite members for meetings or to prepare the Council's agenda. All this will change," a source said.

The IITs have decided to approach D Udaya Kumar, assistant professor at IIT Guwahati and the designer of the new

rupee symbol, to design a logo for the IIT Council.

The move is a component of HRD minister Kapil Sibal's larger plan to increase the functional autonomy of the IITs. The IIT Council — consisting of all IIT directors and chairman of boards, other eminent academic administrators and scientists — at present does not even have an office of its own. It will now have an office — a location has

been identified in South Delhi's Chittaranjan Park.

But this may only be the first step towards greater autonomy for the IITs, sources indicated. "Once the independent IIT Council is capable of handling matters, there is a possibility that we will empower it with far greater powers and withdraw from many administrative aspects of the IIT governance system," a source said.

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## Students jittery about AIEEE exam

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**NEW DELHI:** Students who appeared in the All India Engineering Entrance Examination (AIEEE) on Sunday have still not gotten rid of their worries. Most of them believe that conducting the exam twice was a faulty decision.

Of the 12 lakh students who had registered for AIEEE, about 40,000 will be sitting for the examination on May 11.

These students could not give the exam on Sunday as the paper had been leaked and the exam was postponed by three hours. As their exam clashed with another entrance, these students were given a different date.

"Those students who will appear later have an undue advantage. They know the kind of question paper they will get. Plus, they are getting 10 days extra to prepare," said Rohan Bharadwaj, who appeared for the test on Sunday.

Many of them visited the CBSE office on Monday, demanding a retest for all students. "Many students were harried as they had been standing

**OF 12 LAKH STUDENTS WHO HAD REGISTERED FOR AIEEE, ABOUT 40,000 WILL BE SITTING FOR THE TEST ON MAY 11.**

in the sun since long. There were a lot of rumours. This is not a conducive atmosphere for such an important exam," said Tanya Mahajan, a resident of Keshav Puram. The students will visit the CBSE office again on Wednesday.

Students on the other side of the fence, too, think that it would be unfair to have two tests as the 'solution' to the problem. "We are bound to get a tougher paper. The level of two papers can never be the same," said Nishant Agarwal, who will take the test on May 11.

The CBSE, however, said they will ensure that the difficulty level of the new exam remains the same. "We will ensure no one is discriminated against," said a senior CBSE official.

WITH INPUTS FROM SHASWATI DAS

# Single form to help simplify MBA admissions



**HT Correspondent**

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**NEW DELHI:** For students who want to do Masters in Business Administration (MBA), the application process just got easier. HT Campus.com has launched MBA Common Application Form, a single application form to apply to multiple MBA colleges.

Hindustan Times' education portal, HTCampus.com, has tied up with many MBA colleges across the country to simplify the application procedure for MBA aspirants through the concept of a Common Application Form.

Through this platform, students can avoid the process of filling in multiple, costly physical admission forms, and just make valid applications to multiple colleges with only one

online form, accepted by popular colleges such as IIPM, WLC, NIIT University, Skyline Business School and Centum.

"We're starting with MBA common application, but will soon extend this to many other fields including Engineering and graduate courses," said Amit Garg, Business Head, HT-Internet.

"We're certain that this platform will provide huge benefits to students and colleges alike. Students often cut down on the number of colleges they apply to because of the costs and hassles involved in procuring applications directly from multiple colleges," Garg added.

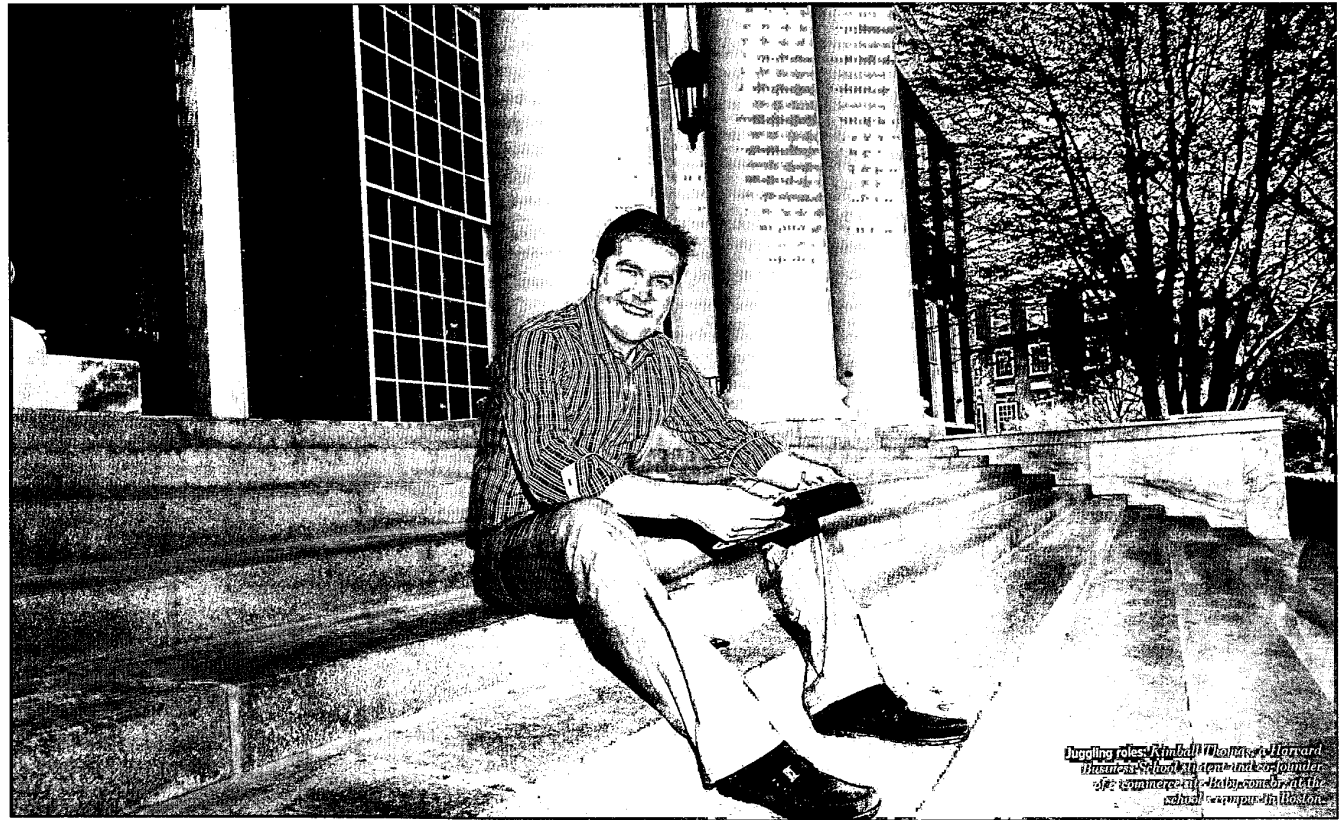
"With our online system and tie-up with colleges, the Common Application simplifies the process greatly," he said.

The service requires students to login to HTCampus.com, fill an online application form, select colleges they want to apply to and make a nominal payment. Students can also track the status of their application and colleges can communicate directly with students through this system.



■ HTCampus.com, has tied up with many MBA colleges.

# Rejecting Wall Street, B-school grads turn to entrepreneurship



*Harvard Business School student Kevin Nazemi, founder of e-commerce site Baby.com.br, sits on a bench in front of the school's campus in Boston.*

A growing number of business school students are rejecting traditional postgraduate paths such as investment banking, hedge funds and consulting, and are channelizing their entrepreneurial ambitions to technology ventures

By EVELYN M. RUSLI  
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**K**imball Thomas and Davis Smith, co-founders of the e-commerce site **Baby.com.br**, had just six hours in Brazil to pitch to prospective investors and recruit a promising executive for the chief operating officer's role.

With little time left after a four-hour meeting with venture capital firm Monashees Capital, the prospective candidate, In Hsieh, agreed to drive the entrepreneurs back to the airport for his interview, braving the city's notoriously congested roads as he answered their questions.

Thomas and Smith, who are cousins, made their evening flight, and Smith got home in time for his final exam at his business school

(B-school).

"Between my red-eye flights, I didn't have time to study," Smith said. "But I realized, the whole reason I went back to school was to build a business like this."

Smith, who attends the Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania, and Thomas, of Harvard Business School (HBS), are part of a growing number of B-school students rejecting traditional postgraduate paths such as investment banking, hedge funds and consulting. It's a trend that is accelerating in the wake of the financial crisis as Wall Street loses its lustre and Silicon Valley shines with a new crop of multibillion-dollar start-ups.

At Harvard, some of Thomas' classmates are applying their entrepreneurial ambitions to technology ventures. Kevin Nazemi, a former Microsoft Corp. product manager, started Done, a personal productivity service, last year. Daniel Gulati, a student who helped Thomas draft his early investor presentations, founded retail site Fashionstake.com with a fellow classmate, Vivian Weng. Graduates from the class of 2010 started 30-40 businesses last year, a 50% increase from the previous year, said William A. Sahlman, a professor of entrepreneurship at HBS.

"The level of entrepreneurship activity here, and I presume at other schools, is up dramatically over the last two years," said Sahlman.

Baby.com.br is the second start-up for Thomas, 31, and Smith, 32. In 2004, the students started PoolT-

## Student START-UPS

ables.com with around \$20,000 (around ₹9 lakh today) scraped together from friends and family. The venture—which taught them the basics, such as how to coordinate with vendors in China and how to run an e-commerce site—was profitable in its first year. Now, the two are tackling a broader, if more complicated, market.

Smith got the idea for Baby.com.br after trying to find diapers for his son, Jack, during a family trip to Rio de Janeiro last year. He had to visit three stores to find a package of Pampers in the right size.

Struck by the lack of high-quality baby care goods, Thomas saw an opportunity in Brazil's fast growing market, where more than three million babies are born every year, according to World Bank data.

The start-up follows a similar strategy to Quidsi, the owner of Diapers.com. That site, also co-founded by a Wharton graduate, has attracted more than one million parents in the US with free shipping on goods for their children. E-commerce giant Amazon.com snapped up Quidsi this year for \$545 million.

"We actually see a lot more po-

tential for e-commerce in Brazil," said Thomas, Baby.com.br's chief executive. "E-commerce there is so much more nascent."

Even so, they face more challenges than with their previous site, including a different regulatory and tax regime than in the US. In Brazil, the payment processing is also more fragmented. The plan is to start the service in July, but Thomas said they may have to push it back.

Investors, inside the school and out, have taken notice. In late April, Baby.com.br was named one of the top three winners for Harvard's annual "Business Plan Contest", which came with a \$25,000 cash prize. The award is on top of the \$3 million that Thomas and Smith raised in February. That fund-raising effort, which valued the company at \$5.6 million, included several well-known venture capitalists, including Monashees Capital and Ron Conway of SV Angel, who has stakes in Twitter and Zynga.

"Harvard carries some distinction; you can catch some people's eyes," said Thomas, referring to prospective investors. "On the margin, if they can, they get back to you."

The contest is part of a broader effort by the school to foster innovation. Last year, budding entrepreneurs at Harvard formed the Startup Tribe, a student group. The organization, which has more than 150 members, persuaded Harvard to start the Minimum Viable Product Fund, a \$50,000 fund for new start-ups. The programme distributes awards of roughly \$5,000

apiece to promising teams, including the nine winners announced in March.

"We're a scrappy, adaptive community" said Andrew Rosenthal, a member of the Startup Tribe. The group has been gaining traction, because of a confluence of factors. "We have a new dean, an active network of recent graduates who are providing mentorship, and there's a strong demand for a student-run community," he said.

The school is also planning to open in the fall the Harvard Innovation Lab, a student centre for start-ups, where founders can work with peers and Harvard's entrepreneurs-in-residence.

Of course, a B-school can also be a significant hurdle for passionate founders. Thomas admits that his grades probably suffered last semester, as he struggled to juggle his classes with investor and client meetings in Brazil, San Francisco and New York.

For the moment, he's catching his breath. Thomas, who is graduating this month, finished school on Friday. "I'm quite relieved that classes are over," he said. "I have a trip to Brazil next week."

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The focus on tech ventures is a trend that is accelerating as Wall Street loses its lustre and Silicon Valley shines with a new crop of multibillion-dollar start-ups

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# One held in engg paper leak case

**HT Correspondent**

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**LUCKNOW:** Uttar Pradesh Police arrested one person in connection with the leak of the All India Engineering Entrance Examination (AIEEE) question papers that affected more than 1.2 million students across the country.

Phool Chand, a resident of Jaunpur, was arrested from Lucknow, around 215 km away, late on Monday, the police said on Tuesday.

The police have also launched a manhunt to nab Deen Dayal, the alleged gang leader and mastermind behind the leak.

"The special task force (STF) conducted raids at several places to nab Dayal. The forces have unearthed that Dayal owned huge properties in Ghaziabad, Noida and Delhi," special director general of police Brij Lal told media persons here.

The police said the gang, which had been in the business of illegally leaking exam papers for a while, has also been operating in Bihar, Madhya Pradesh and Gujarat.

"The STF will soon be able to track down the main accused,

**THE POLICE HAVE ALSO LAUNCHED A MANHUNT TO NAB ALLEGED GANG LEADER AND MASTER-MIND BEHIND THE LEAK**

Dayal," Lal said.

On Saturday night, the STF learnt that the AIEEE question papers had been leaked and were available in the market in Lucknow and Kanpur. The question paper was being sold at Rs6 lakh per copy, the police said.

A case was later registered at the Hazratganj police station.

The AIEEE, which is held in two parts for admission into National Institutes of Technology and other engineering colleges, was postponed by two hours on Sunday.

The exams for the first paper slated for 9.30am began at noon and the second paper to start at 2pm was conducted at 4pm.

Meanwhile, CBSE, which conducts the AIEEE exams, has decided to set up a three-member enquiry committee to investigate the incident. The committee will submit its report within four weeks.

Business Line ND 04-May-11 p-11

## ISRO unveils 'fastest' supercomputer

**Our Bureau**

Thiruvananthapuram, May 3

Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) has built a supercomputer, which it claims would be the country's fastest supercomputer in terms of theoretical peak performance of 220 teraflops (220 trillion floating point operations per second).

Dr K. Radhakrishnan, Chairman, ISRO, unveiled the supercomputer at the Vikram Sarabhai Space Centre (VSSC) here on Monday. ISRO has its

supercomputing facility, Satish Dhawan Supercomputing Facility, at VSSC.

The new graphic processing unit (GPU)-based supercomputer, named SAGA-220 (Supercomputer for Aerospace with GPU Architecture-220 teraflops), would come in handy for space scientists dealing with complex aerospace problems, an official spokesman said here.

SAGA-220 has been fully designed and built by the VSSC using commercially available hardware, open source

software components and through in-house development.

The system uses 400 Nvidia Tesla 2070 GPUs and 400 Intel Quad Core Xeon CPUs (central processing units) supplied by Wipro with a high-speed interconnect.

With each GPU and CPU providing a performance of 500 gigaflops and 50 gigaflops respectively, the theoretical peak performance of the system amounts to 220 tetrafflops, the spokesman explained.

Amar Ujala ND 4/05/2011 p-10

# बिहार के इंजीनियर ने कराया एआईईईई का पेपर लीक

● अमर उजाला ब्यूरो

लखनऊ। ऑल इंडिया इंजीनियरिंग इंस्टीट्यूट्स इक्जाम की प्रवेश परीक्षा का पर्चा बिहार के एक इंजीनियर ने आउट कराया। ग्रामीण अभियंत्रण सेवाओं में तैनात यह इंजीनियर मामले का खुलासा होते ही परिवार समेत फरार हो गया है। उसे तलाश करने के लिए एसटीएफ ने बिहार पुलिस से सहयोग मांगा है। बिहार पुलिस ने इंजीनियर के एक सहयोगी सहित उसके पांच अन्य जानकारों को हिरासत में लिया है। विशेष पुलिस महानिदेशक बृजलाल ने बताया कि एसटीएफ ने इसके अलावा पश्चिम उत्तर प्रदेश में मेरठ समेत कुछ और जगहों पर भी छापे डाले। उन्होंने यह भी माना कि एसटीएफ की एक टीम प्रदेश के बाहर किसी दूसरे राज्य में गई है, जहां परीक्षा के पेपर छपवाए गए थे।

इस बीच एसटीएफ ने उत्तर प्रदेश में कई जगहों पर पेपर लीक करने वाले गिरोह के सदस्यों की तलाश में गाजियाबाद, कानपुर, इलाहाबाद, मेरठ आदि कई जगहों पर छापे

- एसटीएफ ने गाजियाबाद, मेरठ, इलाहाबाद में छापे मारे
- बिहार पुलिस से मांगी मदद, एक टीम अहमदाबाद गई

मारे। इस कार्रवाई में एसटीएफ के हाथ दो लोगों के आने की जानकारी है। इसके अलावा प्रिंटिंग प्रेस से जुड़े कुछ लोगों की तलाश में एसटीएफ की एक टीम अहमदाबाद भेजी गई है।

एसटीएफ टीम ने कई कोचिंग संस्थानों के संचालकों से भी पूछताछ की। बिहार के मुजफ्फरपुर के वैशाली क्षेत्र में रहने वाले इंजीनियर को तलाश करने के लिए एसटीएफ के आग्रह पर बिहार पुलिस ने उसके एक सहकर्मी के अलावा चार अन्य परिचितों को हिरासत में लिया है। साथ ही एक ऐसे व्यक्ति को हिरासत में लिया है, जिसने इंजीनियर को फरार होने के लिए चार पहिया वाहन मुहैया कराया था। इस बात की जानकारी बिहार के एक आला पुलिस अफसर ने दी। गौरतलब है कि पेपर लीक होने के फौरन बाद ही अफसरों ने यह कहा

था कि इस गिरोह के तार बिहार से जुड़े हुए हैं, लेकिन अब एसटीएफ अधिकारी इस इंजीनियर के बारे में चुप्पी साधे हुए हैं। उधर, एसटीएफ की एक टीम ने सोमवार रात ही गाजियाबाद के वैशाली इलाके में छापे मारा। यहां सोमवार को गिरफ्तार किए गए पेपर लीक कांड के आरोपी बैंक कर्मी फूलचंद्र का भाई दीना उर्फ दीन दयाल की आलीशान कोठी है। दीना को दबोचने में एसटीएफ कामयाब नहीं हो सकी है। एसटीएफ के अधिकारियों का कहना है कि एआईईईई का पेपर ब्रेचने की योजना दीना ने ही बनाई थी और इसके लिए आने वाले खर्च की रकम का इंतजाम भी किया था। एसटीएफ के अफसरों का कहना है कि दीना और फूलचंद्र कुछ अरसा पहले रेलवे से बर्खास्त किए गए टीटी बेदीराम के रिश्ते में भाई हैं।