

Newspaper Clips

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Research scenario dismal, reveals UGC... <http://paper.hindustantimes.com/epa>

Indian research scenario dismal, reveals UGC report

HT Correspondent

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LUCKNOW: A University Grants Commission (UGC) report on higher education presents a dismal picture on the research and development front. According to the report, student enrollment in this area of education is not encouraging.

The UGC has sent a copy of the report—'Higher Education in India at a Glance' to all universities. The report reveals that though about 86% students complete their graduation, only 12% opt for post-graduate programmes and only 1% for research, making it clear that students either do not have the zeal for pursuing post-graduation and research or have better career options available after graduation. The remaining 1% take up diploma or certificate courses.

On the issue of poor enrolment of students in research field, the report puts forward another possible reason—lack of motivation.



It says teaching community cannot shy away from the fact that it is not able to generate enthusiasm for research among students. The onus also lies on universities and bodies like AICTE and UGC itself to provide adequate facilities to young researchers, along with good compensation for them to proceed in that direction.


The report highlights growth in the number of educational institutions and the enrolment ratio

but it also shows that this growth is more in professional streams.

LU spokesperson Rajesh Mishra says: "Indeed it is sad that few students are taking up serious research work. But having said that, one must also say that several universities do not have enough infrastructure facilities that encourage or facilitate students in pursuing research."

As per the report, there are 634 degree-awarding institutions in the country. Tamil Nadu leads with the highest number of such institutions, that is, 59, followed by 58 in Uttar Pradesh, 48 in Rajasthan, 44 in Maharashtra and 42 in Karnataka, 36 in Gujarat, 28 in Madhya Pradesh and 26 in West Bengal.

The report has been prepared by UGC chairman Ved Praksah.



Hemwati Nandan Bahuguna University
Srinagar Garhwal (Uttarakhand) - 246 174 (A Central University)

ADMISSION ANNOUNCEMENT

P&B Daily , ND 9/05/2012 P-9

Demand for fee hike and free land to private universities

PBD BUREAU

NEW DELHI, MAY 8

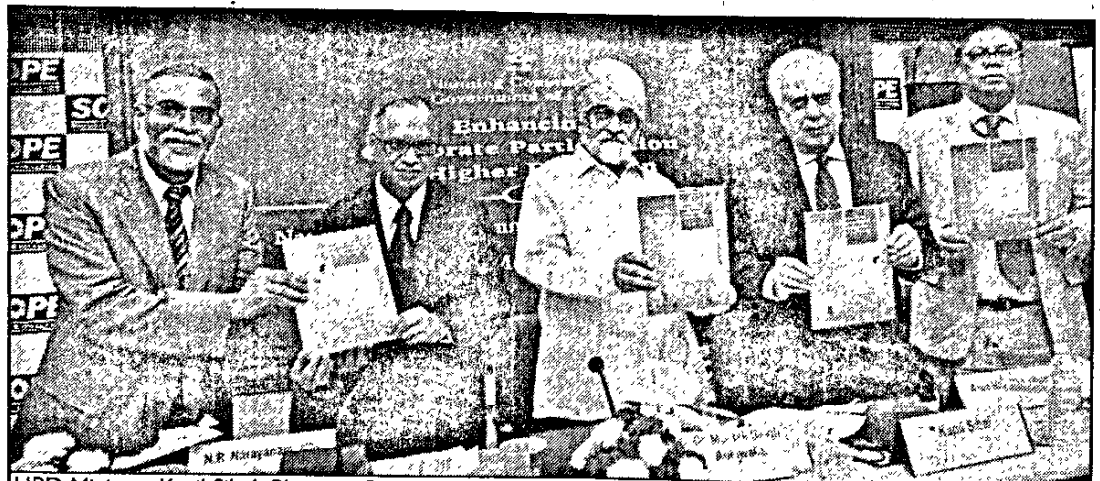
A Planning Commission group has sought massive government support, including free land to the private sector entering higher education, even as Plan panel Deputy Chairman Montek Singh Ahluwalia today pitched for across-the-board fee hike in universities.

A committee on corporate sector participation in higher education headed by Chief Mentor of Infosys NR Narayana Murthy submitted its report to Ahluwalia, who said,

"I am in favour of raising the fee across-the-board..."

The Plan panel Deputy Chairman said, "Stop funding the universities and just fund the students...then they go to universities that are worth paying for"

The public resources need to grow in primary and secondary education, he said adding the corporate sector should be involved in



HRD Minister, Kapil Sibal, Planning Commission deputy chairman, Montek Singh Ahluwalia and CCPHE chairman, NR Narayanamurthy at the release of the committee's report in New Delhi — PTI photo

the sector as the public resources for health and education are limited.

Human Resource Minister Kapil Sibal, who was also present on the occasion of the report being submitted to the Plan panel, said, "Private sector is not going to invest unless you give them appropriate environment and the funda-

mental is land". However, he said, there were litigations over land given to the private sector. He also supported soft loans for setting up educational and health institutions in the private sector.

The Narayana Murthy Committee said charge-free 999 year land lease should be provided to the corporate sector entering

into education in developed areas with world class air connectivity and well-developed social infrastructure.

Also, liberal fiscal incentives like 300 per cent deduction from tax income be provided, it said, contending that the country needs additional 26 million seats in the next 10 years.

Business Standard ND
9/05/2012 p-4

Murthy panel for greater pvt sector role in higher education

BS REPORTER
New Delhi, 8 May

To boost the involvement of the private sector in higher education in India, a committee, headed by Infosys Technologies founder N R Narayana Murthy, has suggested path-breaking measures like free land for 999 years, 300 per cent deduction in taxable income to companies for contributions towards boosting higher education and 10-year multiple entry visas for foreign research scholars. The committee said accreditation should be made mandatory for all universities and programmes run by such universities. The panel's report could be considered while framing the final document for the 12th five-year Plan.

To enable students from unprivileged backgrounds to avail of services quality higher education, the panel suggested proposed a scholarship fund with a corpus of ₹1,000 crore. "All contributions made by the corporate sector for this fund should be granted tax exemption of up to 300 per cent of their contribution," it said. The committee also said a National Educational Loan Fund with a corpus of ₹100,000 crore should be set up by public sector banks to disburse long-tenure loans.

On land for educational institutions, the committee said that all norms floor space index should be relaxed to encourage compact city campuses and ensure optimal land utilisation in urban areas.

To ensure big companies were invited to participate in the process of developing higher education, personal invitations should be sent by the prime minister to 25 Indian companies and 25 eminent, high net worth individuals to start a university on meeting the set conditions, the panel said.

Meanwhile, Planning Commission Deputy Chairman Montek Singh Ahluwalia has pitched for raising fees by universities and providing easy finance for students to complete higher education. "Stop funding the universities and just fund students....Then they would go to universities worth paying for," he said.

FINANCIAL EXPRESS
ND 9/05/2012 p-3

₹40,000-crore funds needed for higher education in 12th Plan: Panel

fe Bureau

New Delhi, May 8: The higher education sector in India will require an investment of ₹40,000 crore (\$8 billion) in the 12th Plan period (2012-17) and half of this would have to come from the corporate sector.

As per the committee report on corporate sector participation in higher education headed by Infosys' chief mentor N R Narayana Murthy, the centre's contribution of ₹15,000 crore should be from a mix of higher education sector plan funds while the state governments' contribution of ₹5,000 crore should be in the form of land grants and institutional investments for setting up education clusters and knowledge hubs.

"The existing higher education system in India lags in comparison to global standards and is inadequate to meet the demand. There is a need to engage the corporate sector to invest in existing institutions and setup new ones," Murthy said while submitting the report on Tuesday.

The committee set up by the Planning Commission recommended the government to allocate land free of charge for 999 years to set up an educational institution and that such land should be usable for setting up academic facilities, incubation centres and technology parks. The report further noted that India does not have adequate eligible students and needs an additional capacity of 26 million seats over the next decade.

FINANCIAL EXPRESS ND 9/05/2012 P-4

Split varsities for easy ops: UGC

Kirtika Suneja

New Delhi, May 8: As a radical reform measure to reduce the number of affiliations by universities, the University Grants Commission (UGC) has recommended that such institutions be split into smaller units. The scheme would incentivise states to implement reforms in the affiliation system so that universities are not overburdened due to affiliation of a large number of colleges to them.

An expert committee set up by the commission has recommended division of the existing state universities with large number of affiliated colleges into smaller universities, as separate non-affiliating multi-disciplinary universities and as exclusive affiliating universities with limited number of colleges affiliated to them.

At present, there are 289 state universities in the country of which more than half have 300-1,000 affiliated colleges. Interestingly, 90% of the undergraduate students, 70% of the post-graduate students and 80% of the faculty members are from the affiliated colleges.

"The load of the affiliating system on the universities is so much that there is no time for



academic productivity. We have recommended this after taking into account the regional sentiments associated with the education system," said SP Thyagarajan, former vice-chancellor of Madras University and chairman of the 12-member committee which authored the report on affiliation reforms.

Consider this. While Bangalore University has 900 affiliated colleges, Osmania University has more than 1,000. To ease the load on such universities,

the committee has recommended that the maximum number of colleges to be affiliated to any university in the country should be limited to 100 and that the aim of an affiliated college should be to develop into a unitary university or an autonomous college.

The committee has also suggested that all central and state universities in the country could have 5-10 constituent, autonomous colleges, to be mentored by the parent university

as "model colleges" so that they can be role models for other affiliated colleges.

"We've suggested such universities be made independent and follow the Western model where some universities do not have affiliated colleges at all. In such cases the university concerned may have several campuses, as in the case of the University of California, the University of Edinburgh or the University of Melbourne," Thyagarajan said.

Hindustan Times, ND 09/05/2012 P-8

Ved Prakash re-appointed as UGC vice chairperson

NEW DELHI: The HRD ministry on Monday issued an order for the re-appointment of Ved Prakash as the vice chairperson of UGC, despite a public interest litigation pending in HC questioning his candidature. Prakash has been re-appointment for a period of three years. The PIL filed in April questioning his candidature, is up for hearing on May 23.

MINT ND 09/05/2012 P-5

NEW VERTICAL

Now Crisil, Icra to rate engineering, B-schools

Institutions will pay for the ratings, which will be based on parameters such as curriculum and placements

BY PRASHANT K. NANDA
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NEW DELHI

In a country where engineering and business-school rankings are big business for media firms—in terms of circulation and advertising revenue—it was only going to be a matter of time before professional rating agencies got into the act.

Crisil Ltd and Icra Ltd have started rating the programmes offered by business and engineering schools. While Crisil rates only business schools, Icra rates both. Crisil has graded 39 B-school programmes across 28 institutes, while Icra has rated 13 B-schools programmes.

"Since we are already into corporate debt rating, we explored another vertical," said Rohit Inamdar, senior vice-president and co-head, corporate sector

rating at Icra. "In three-four years we can have 30% of the addressable market," he added.

India has at least 3,900 business schools and 4,000 engineering colleges. The ratings are certain to help students choose schools carefully, say analysts.

Around 1.5 million students enter engineering colleges across India every year and 350,000 go to business schools, but the quality of many of the institutions remains a suspect.

At least 138 professional colleges offering programmes in management, engineering and computer application streams have applied to the All India Council for Technical Education, the apex technical education regulator, for permission to shut shop, citing low admission rates and poor campus placement, *Mint* reported on 25 March.

Much like ratings of corporate financial instruments, the ratings of business and engineering schools are "solicited" but "independent and neutral", Inamdar said. The agencies rate the programmes on parameters such as curriculum, infrastructure and placements. The schools pay for

The ratings will help students choose their schools carefully, say analysts

the ratings.

A Crisil spokesperson said in an email that such ratings add to a school's credibility: "It provides stakeholders with reliable information about the school, increases their confidence in the school and helps the school acquire strong brand equity."

Experts as well as the administrators of such schools say rating is a good idea. "There is no credible source of knowing which institute is good or bad. So going for independent ratings helps students, professors and parents while applying to colleges. Currently, we don't have a structured system to tell whether JNU (Jawaharlal Nehru University) is better or Jamia Millia (Islamia)," said Narayanan Ramaswamy,

partner and head of the education practice at audit firm KPMG. "What Crisil and Icra are doing is riding on their credibility. Unless they build competency, their credibility will suffer, (and) people will not trust (the ratings)."

The ratings that can be seen in newspapers and magazines and on TV are suspect because there is always the possibility of some quid pro quo, according to P.T. Joseph, director, Xavier Institute of Management, Bhubaneswar. Independent ratings are the way to go, he added. "When Crisil approached us, we told them that we would not pay them the first time and did not. But from next time onwards we will pay them. The rating brings transparency and helps students get a fair knowledge about the school and its offering."

Parimal Merchant, admission-in-charge of SP Jain Institute of Management and Research, Mumbai, said Crisil doesn't just rate its programme but also audits its placement report.

In the past, there has been some controversy over placement data released by business schools. Since the rating process is funded by the schools, neither Crisil nor Icra will publish them if the school disagrees with the rating.

Crisil rates B-schools in two categories, national and state-level, and between B (lowest) and A*** (highest). Icra rates business schools from Icra EB5 (lowest) to Icra EB1 (highest) and engineering schools from Icra EG5 to Icra EG1.

Hindustan Times, ND 09/05/2012 P-3

DU to detain 100 students for not meeting attendance norm

Shaswati Das

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NEW DELHI: Students of Delhi University (DU) are now facing the heat from their respective colleges for not meeting the minimum attendance criteria.

Sources said that more than 100 students, whose attendance was below 66.67 per cent, have been detained across all colleges in the university.

While some colleges such as Deen Dayal Upadhyaya (DDU) College have detained 48 students, Dyal Singh College has detained 55 students across 15 courses.

"We have detained 48 students this semester across all courses. Their continuation in the college is subject to two conditions — if they have cleared their first semester papers, then they will come back next year when the incumbent batch reaches the second semester. But if the student has not cleared his first semester papers, but has been detained in the second semester too, he will lose

Across the board, there may be close to 100 students who have been detained for shortage of attendance. Now, colleges will have to see the cases.

DU OFFICIAL

his seat in the college," said SK Garg, principal, DDU College.

While the figure was much higher in the previous semester (close to 350 students were detained across the university), the teachers said that students had understood the enormity of the situation, as a result of which, the figure was lower this time.

Some other colleges such as Lady Sri Ram (LSR) claimed that students would be detained as per university guidelines even though the number remained undisclosed.

"There are a few cases where students have not met the criteria wherein the attendance has to be above 66.67 per cent.

There are a few cases where students have not met the criteria wherein the attendance has to be above 66.67 per cent. We will be detaining them.

KANIKA KHANDELWAL
professor, LSR

We will be detaining them," said Kanika Khandelwal, professor, LSR College.

The university officials said that fate of the 100-odd students who faced detention, was now dependent on whether or not they had cleared their first semester exams.

"Across the board, there may be close to 100 students who have been detained for shortage of attendance. Now, colleges will have to see the cases where students have or have not cleared their first semester papers and then these students will have to re-apply for admission with the new batch," said a DU official.

Business Bhaskar ND 9/05/2012 P-5

वेट एंड वॉच ♦ कॉमन इंजीनियरिंग टेस्ट पर फैसले का सब कर रहे इंतजार

इंजीनियरिंग परीक्षाओं के कोचिंग संस्थानों में दाखिले हुए बहुत कम

तमाम संस्थानों में दाखिलों की प्रक्रिया अभी धीमी बिजनेस भास्कर ♦ नई दिल्ली

इंजीनियरिंग संस्थानों में प्रवेश के लिए प्रस्तावित कॉमन इंजीनियरिंग टेस्ट पर किसी तरह का फैसला न आने के कारण इंजीनियरिंग परीक्षाओं की कोचिंग कराने वाले संस्थानों में अभी छात्रों के दाखिले में पिछले साल के मुकाबले तकरीबन 10-15 फीसदी की कमी आई है। संस्थानों के मुताबिक अभी अभिभावक वेट एंड वॉच की स्थिति में है, इसलिए दाखिलों की प्रक्रिया धीमी है। दसवीं और बारहवीं बोर्ड परीक्षाओं के परिणाम आ जाने के बाद उम्मीद है कि दाखिलों की संख्या बढ़ेगी और कॉमन एंट्रेंस टेस्ट पर शायद स्थिति स्पष्ट हो सकेगी।

कोटा स्थित बंसल क्लासेज प्राइवेट लिमिटेड के सीईओ प्रमोद कुमार बंसल ने बताया कि इंजीनियरिंग प्रवेश परीक्षाओं के लिए प्रस्तावित कॉमन एंट्रेंस टेस्ट पर किसी तरह का फैसला न आने के चलते इंजीनियरिंग प्रवेश परीक्षाओं की तैयारी के लिए दो साल का कोर्स करने वाले छात्रों के दाखिले की संख्या में कमी आई है। दरअसल, कोटा में आकर कोचिंग करने वाले ज्यादातर छात्र उस तरह से स्कूल की पढ़ाई नहीं कर पाते और अब चूक बोर्ड परीक्षाओं के अंकों को वेटेज



कोटा में छात्र घटे

अब चूक बोर्ड परीक्षाओं के अंकों को वेटेज देने का प्रस्ताव सामने आ रहा है, कोटा में बाहर से आने वाले छात्रों की संख्या में कमी आई है। अगर कॉमन टेस्ट पर स्थिति स्पष्ट हो जाती है तो छात्रों की संख्या पर भी स्थिति स्पष्ट हो जाएगी।

तब शायद बढ़े

कॉमन इंजीनियरिंग टेस्ट पर स्थिति स्पष्ट न होने से दाखिले प्रायः 10-15 फीसदी घटे हैं। उम्मीद है कि एक-दो महीने में कॉमन टेस्ट पर स्थिति स्पष्ट हो सकेगी और तब तक बोर्ड के रिजल्ट आ जाएंगे, उसके बाद शायद दाखिलों की संख्या बढ़े।

देने का प्रस्ताव सामने आ रहा है, बाहर से आने वाले छात्रों की संख्या में कमी आई है। अगर कॉमन टेस्ट पर स्थिति स्पष्ट हो जाती है, छात्रों की संख्या पर भी स्थिति स्पष्ट हो सकेगी। करियर प्वाइंट के निदेशक प्रमोद माहेश्वरी ने बताया कि जनवरी-फरवरी में कोर्स को लेकर होने वाली इन्क्वायरीज में काफी कमी आई। अभी स्थिति ठीक-ठाक है, लेकिन सही स्थिति का पता बोर्ड परीक्षाओं के

परिणाम आने के बाद ही चल सकेगा। इस साल फीस में 10 फीसदी तक की बढ़ोतरी की गई है। आईआईटी जेईई जैसे परीक्षाओं की तैयारी के लिए एक साल की फीस तकरीबन 70,000 रुपये प्रति वर्ष रखी गई है। टॉपर्स ट्यूटोरियल के सीईओ एम. वी. रेड्डी ने बताया कि कॉमन इंजीनियरिंग टेस्ट पर स्थिति स्पष्ट न होने के कारण दाखिलों में पिछले साल के मुकाबले 10-15 फीसदी तक की

कमी आई है। अभी तक 1,000 छात्रों का दाखिला किया जा चुका है। मगर, संख्या अभी काफी कम है।

लग रहा है कि अभिभावक अभी वेट एंड वॉच की स्थिति में है। उम्मीद है कि अगले एक-दो महीने के भीतर कॉमन टेस्ट पर स्थिति स्पष्ट हो सकेगी और तब तक बोर्ड परीक्षाओं के परिणाम भी आ जाएंगे, उसके बाद शायद दाखिलों की संख्या बढ़े।

सजय डिमरी