Newspaper Clips
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HT.COM ND 29/10/2014 P-6

■ Of all the start-ups, almost 25 per cent are founded by IIT alumni. REPRESENTATIVE PHOTO

Start-ups building up to hire from IIT's

Apoorva Puranik

With the placement season across Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs) set to kick off from December, a large number of start-ups are making a beeline to recruit talent for their ventures from the top institutions.

The number of start-ups registering for the drive has almost doubled, placement officials across IITs said, indicating a shift in hiring patterns. Many start-ups are first-timers at the IIT placements while two-to-four-year-old companies are offering ₹12-15 lakh pay packages.

While 25 start-ups have already registered for placements at IIT Bombay, the number is set to touch 50 by the end of November.

"The increase in number of start-ups wanting to recruit has seen a significant rise this year. Last year, we saw around 35 start-ups recruiting from campus, however this year we are expecting it to double," said Mohak Mehta placement manager at IIT Bombay.

IIT Madras, which only saw seven start-ups recruiting last year, will play host to at least 30 companies this year. In fact, the institute has bookmarked two days exclusively in its placement calendar for ventures promoted by IIT alumni, said Vishranth Suresh, head of academic affairs at IIT Madras.

Similarly, IIT Kanpur is expecting around 45 start-ups to register for recruitments compared to 24 last year.

According to data provided by IIT Bombay, out of all the start-ups registered for recruitments this year, almost 25 per cent are those founded by IIT alumni.

Taxi service aggregator, Ola Cabs, founded in 2011 by IIT Bombay alumnus Ankit Bhati and Bhavish Aggarwal will make offers to the fresh graduates from their alma mater. Similarly an online property listing start-up housing.com, also founded by another IIT B alumnus, picked up 45 IIT students last year.

"Students establish immediate connect with IIT based start-ups. The work culture of most start-ups is lucrative as there is lot of freedom of creativity and ideas," a senior placement official from IIT Roorkee said.

The institute has also seen a jump of almost 50 epr cent in the number of start-ups wishing to recruit this year.

According to a senior professor at IIT Madras, e-commerce companies and other start-ups are also stepping up hiring and offering better salaries.

"The market is very buoyant thanks to a stable government and with start-ups raising millions in funds, students are increasingly opening up to trying their hands in new companies. While older start-ups like Flipkart and Zomato still rule the roosts with their hefty pay packages, new ventures are also offering lucrative profiles," Mehta added.

VITAL STATS

■ **25 start-ups** have already registered **for placements** at IIT Bombay, and the number is set to touch 50
■ IIT Madras which saw **only seven start-ups last year** will play host to atleast 30 companies this year
■ IIT Kanpur is also expecting around **45 start-ups to register**
■ IIT Roorkee has also seen a **50 per cent jump** in the number of start-ups
■ Of all the start-ups registered for recruitments, almost **25 per cent are founded by IIT alumni**

HIGHER EDUCATION

Govt, experts discuss viability options for six new IIMs

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

Officials of the Union human resources development (HRD) ministry on Tuesday met representatives of some of the Indian Institutes of Management (IIMs), industry experts and state government officials, to discuss issues related to the opening of six new IIMs by the next academic year.

The central government officials were led by the higher education secretary, at least two government officials said, requesting anonymity.

"Four key areas—land requirement, possibility of mentoring of proposed IIMs by older peers, faculty and physical infrastructure—were discussed during the meeting," one of the two officials said.

"There are indicative places where new IIMs can come up, but the HRD ministry cannot go by indicative places and has asked states that they may suggest more than one location before a final site selection takes place," the second official said. "This is the first comprehensive meeting on proposed IIMs and from now on every stakeholder will come on the same page."

The Union budget presented on 10 July had proposed IIMs in Himachal Pradesh, Punjab, Bihar, Odisha and Maharashtra. The sixth IIM will come up in Andhra Pradesh as part of the Andhra Pradesh Reorganization Bill. Currently, India has 13 IIMs.

The first official said though there was criticism about opening more IIMs when the ones established in the last five years were struggling, popular aspiration for more quality institutions was justified.

But the HRD ministry has to keep in mind two prime issues—new IIMs must come up in a place where there is a "decent level of urban infrastructure like airport or a major rail head, and good quality hospitality arrangements. Two, it must be established near industrial clusters as it will go a long way in improving industry-academia collaboration, placement and attraction for faculties to join the institutions", said the first official.

The first official said IIMs and Indian Institutes of Technology were symbols of aspiration and one cannot blame the government for opening more of them.

On the mentoring part, the second official said that older IIMs have flagged some issues and hand-holding by them could be an ideal situation.

"But it's not a prerequisite for the ministry for opening new IIMs. It can directly appoint a director and he or she will run the show from day one," said the official.

The government may relax land requirement for opening new IIMs as arranging 200-300 acres near a city is not an easy task. The government has already set up a committee to look into the issue and may allow vertical campuses than the present horizontal system.

"The country needs more quality institutions, but establishing new IIMs would be a huge challenge," R.C. Bhargava, chairman of **Maruti Suzuki India Ltd** had said earlier this month. Bhargava is also the chairman of the board of governors at IIM-Ranchi.

S. Parashar, a former director of IIM-Indore, said the government has to keep in mind the physical and intellectual infrastructure of new IIMs. Six new IIMs that have come up in the last five years are operating out of temporary campuses.

Six new IIMs to start admissions next year: Sources

DHIRENDRA KUMAR

NEW DELHI: The announcement of opening of six more Indian Institute of Managements (IIMs) by Narendra Modi-led NDA government during budget presentation in July is soon going to be a reality. Sources in the Ministry of Human Resource and Development said that all upcoming six IIMs which are being established in the states of Himachal Pradesh, Bihar, Punjab, Maharashtra, Odisha and Andhra Pradesh would start taking admission from the next academic session.

'In a meeting of all the directots of the 13 IIMs, the HRD ministry asked them to chalk out plans to mentor the new upcoming management institutes. The existing IIMs would mentor the nearest new IIM,' sources in the ministry said.

'According to the nearest-to-mentor-nearest, the IIM-Kolkata would act as mentor of upcoming IIM-Odisha, similarly IIM-Ranchi would act as adviser of upcoming IIM-Patna. The IIM-Rohtak would either guide new management college in Punjab or Himachal,' sources added.

On the question of whether the old-war horses are ready to face the challenge, IIM-Indore director Professor Rishikesha T Krishnan, said, 'We are equipped to mentor the new institutions. There is nothing new in it. We have done it earlier too. It's good that ministry is utilising our experiences.' professor Saibal Chattopadhyay, the director of IIM-Calcutta, also opined the same.

So in total there will be 19 IIMs to which spirants can apply. As per the latest update on CAT 2014 website, 'In accordance with the government of India's directive it is herby informed that six new IIMs are planned to commence their academic session from 2015-16. Hence, if you are interested to apply in the PGPs of any/all the following IIMs are advised to indicate the same in the given boxes.'

The equating/scaling process will be announced prior to CAT 2014 examination – 16 November and 22 November - to avoid confusion among the aspirants.

FULFILLING PROMISES

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President to host NIT directors' meet

http://www.business-standard.com/article/news-ians/president-to-host-nit-directors-meet-114102800411_1.html

President Pranab Mukherjee will host a meeting of directors of National Institutes of Technology (NIT) here Oct 29-30.

The conference would be held at Rashtrapati Bhavan, an official release said here Tuesday.

This is the second conference of directors of NITs during the present presidency. The first conference was organised November 2013. Directors of 30 NITs will participate in the conference.

The agenda of the conference includes steps required for deepening research and technological innovation for meeting national development goals, technology-enabled learning, building international networks and linkages for quality improvement and initiatives for capacity development of faculty, the release added.

An action-taken report on the recommendations made in the conference of directors of NITs 2013 will also be discussed during the conference.

IIT-Madras to set up desalination plant at Kanyakumari for potable water

http://www.deccanchronicle.com/141028/nation-current-affairs/article/iit-madras-set-desalination-plant-kanyakumari-potable-water

Chennai/Kanyakumari: The Indian Institute of Technology, Madras and Vivekananda Kendra have joined hands to set up a desalination plant in Kanyakumari to provide potable water.

The ministry of earth sciences has sponsored the project with Rs 94.52 lakh. The ground breaking ceremony will take place on October 28.

As several desalination plants use diesel or other fossil fuels to convert salt water into potable water, Professor A. Mani from the mechanical engineering department with research interests in solar energy and desalination at IIT-M, suggested solar multi-effect desalination system at Vivekananda Kendra in Kanyakumari.

"Our desalination plant is capable of producing 10,000 litres of water every day and a litre of water will cost just 66 paise. We will use only solar power to produce drinking water from sea water," Professor Mani said.

"In our effort to help society we will be installing a desalination plant in our campus in Kanyakumari to provide potable water to the people. We have allocated 2,000 square metres of land for the project. A Trichy based industrialist M.P. Ramaswamy has agreed to provide solar photovoltaic panels, which will power the project," Hanumantha Rao said to DC on Monday.

Bhubaneswar on IIM radar

SUBHASHISH MOHANTY AND BASANT MOHANTY

http://www.telegraphindia.com/1141029/jsp/frontpage/story_18975874.jsp#.VFBpWBb6O4s

Bhubaneswar/ New Delhi, Oct. 28: The proposed Indian Institute of Management (IIM) in Odisha is likely to have its temporary campus here, while its permanent campus, in all likelihood, would be located either at Tarboi near Argul or at a place between Jatni and Khurda, official sources said.

The institute may operate for the time being either from the transit campus of IIT or that of the National Institute of Science Education and Research (Niser). Both the institutes are currently housed in temporary campuses, which they are expected to vacate shortly, according to sources.

The development comes on the day the Centre set a 15-day deadline for the governments of Odisha, Bihar, Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra, Punjab and Himachal Pradesh to suggest possible sites for IIMs as well as temporary campuses where classes can start next July.

Both the Niser and IIT will shift to the their new campus near Jatni, about 25 km from the city. While the process of shifting of Niser has already begun, the IIT is expected to shift to its new campus by the end of the year.

The state government has found that the existing facilities at these temporary campuses are suitable to start operations of the IIM before a site for permanent campus is decided.

Sources at the secretariat said the state government had almost decided to set up its permanent campus near Bhubanewar because of the logistics involved in the project. In its guidelines for selection of location, the human resource development ministry had made it clear that the proposed site should have air and rail links.

"A team of central government officials will visit the proposed locations and take a final view," said a state government official.

However, given its political compulsions, the state government is yet to formally announce the name of the site for the permanent IIM campus.

Leaders from different regions of the state have been pressuring the government to set up the premier institute on their soil. The collectors of Sundargarh, Koraput, Cuttack, Khurda, Sambalpur and Ganjam have already identified places and have sent their proposals to the government.

The HRD ministry today held a meeting in New Delhi to discuss about the location of the proposed institutes as the new IIMs will start from the next academic session. Union Higher education secretary Satya Narayan Mohanty chaired a meeting of directors of six old IIMs and secretary in-charge of technical education of the six states and reviewed the progress in setting up of the elite institution.

The HRD ministry wants the states to be ready with their proposals before the Common Admission Test (CAT) for entrance into IIMs is held on November 16 and 22, an IIM director said.

The ministry suggested that the temporary campus should ideally be located in the same city where the permanent campus is planned.

Another IIM director said the new institutes would be mentored by the nearest old IIMs. For example, IIM

Calcutta is likely to mentor IIM Odisha, IIM Bangalore is likely to mentor IIM Andhra Pradesh and IIM Ahmedabad is likely to mentor IIM Maharashtra. It is not clear which of the remaining older IIMs — Lucknow, Kozhikode and Indore — will mentor which of the other three.

"We have mentored new IIMs in the past also. Our faculty members will manage the new institute till the time the new institute appoints its own faculty. The examinations and all academic activities will be conducted by the mentor institute," the director said.

At the meeting today, each state government except Punjab suggested three or four possible sites for the permanent campus.

The secretary, employment and technical education & training department, government of Odisha, Chandra Sekhar Kumar, said: "The government of India has asked for commitment from the state. The state government has already zeroed in on possible sites for business school. The temporary campus will be identified soon."

An IIM director said that attracting good faculty would be the major problem for the new institutes. The seven IIMs started during the last six years are suffering from faculty shortage up to 50 per cent.

"The new institutes do not offer the academic ambience. Second, the pension provision for employees of new institutes is different from the old institutes," the director said. The older institutes give pension after retirement, while employees of the new institutes have to contribute to the pension fund.

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Harvard tops global universities' list

BLOOMBERG
New York, 28 October

Harvard University led *US News & World Report*'s first-ever global ranking of universities, as US schools took eight of the top 10 slots.

Massachusetts Institute of Technology came in second, followed by University of California at Berkeley, according to the list of 500 schools in 49 countries released on Tuesday. Stanford University was rated fourth, and two UK schools — University of Oxford and University of Cambridge — followed.

The magazine has published a ranking of US institutions for three decades, where the methodology focuses on undergraduate entrance exam scores, admissions and academic reputation. The worldwide rankings look at the importance of a school's research, global and regional reputation, international collaboration and the number of doctorates awarded, according to the statement.

Christopher Nolan to visit IIT Bombay

Christopher Nolan, director of films like *Inception* and *The Dark Knight*, will make an appearance at IIT-B's fest in December

Christopher Nolan

Aanchal.Tuli@timesgroup.com

International music bigwigs coming to Indian college fests is not an unusual phenomenon, with names like Hoobastank, Frantic Jack and many more having performed here. But, for the first time, an Indian fest is getting Hollywood presence in the form of director Christopher Nolan. Nolan will be present at IIT Bombay's fest as a speaker. The annual fest of IIT Bombay, Mood Indigo, which is being held from December 26 to 29, announced the event featuring Nolan on their Facebook page on Monday evening. Nolan is expected to be in the college on December 28. After the announcement, people from around the country have been sharing the news across social media platforms. The enthusiasts aren't limited to the students alone – there are many other excited followers of the director who're looking forward to the event. A student from the college told us, "We had been in talks with Nolan for almost two months. He wants the event to be a very simple one where he will interact with Indian students. So we are trying to keep things low-key, the way he wants them to be."

U.S. News Releases Inaugural Best Global Universities Rankings

New rankings offer comprehensive assessment of the world's leading research universities

http://www.usnews.com/info/blogs/press-room/2014/10/28/us-news-releases-inaugural-best-global-universities-rankings

Washington, D.C. – Oct. 28 – U.S. News & World Report, a leading U.S.-based publisher of education analysis and rankings, today unveiled the inaugural Best Global Universities rankings on usnews.com. The U.S. prevails as the global leader among research universities, with many U.S. universities dominating the list of top schools. Harvard University claims the No. 1 spot overall, followed by the Massachusetts Institute of Technology at No. 2 and the University of California—Berkeley at No. 3. Of the 500 institutions ranked, 134 are in the U.S. Germany follows with 42 schools, and the United Kingdom with 38 schools. China makes a strong showing, with 27 schools in the top 500.

The 2015 Best Global Universities rankings offer the most comprehensive assessment of research universities worldwide as well as by region and country. The overall rankings include 500 universities spread out across 49 countries. There are four regional rankings of the top universities in Asia, Australia/New Zealand, Europe and Latin America, as well as country-specific rankings highlighting the top schools in 11 countries, including Canada, China, France, Germany and Italy. The rankings also feature the top 100 global universities in 21 subject areas, including fields such as economics and business, engineering, computer science and clinical medicine.

U.S. News developed the Best Global Universities rankings to help students accurately compare schools worldwide. "Increasingly, students are enrolling in universities outside of their own countries," said Brian Kelly, editor and chief content officer. "As higher education becomes more global, our new rankings will set standards and allow students to better evaluate all of their options."

The Best Global Universities rankings – which are based on data and metrics provided by Thomson Reuters InCites™ research analytics solutions – focus on institutions' research overall. The methodology weighs factors that measure a university's global and regional reputation; academic research performance using bibliometric indicators; and school-level data on faculty and Ph.D. graduates.

The 2015 rankings are U.S. News' first evaluation of higher education institutions worldwide. For 30 years, U.S. News has produced the Best Colleges rankings, which help prospective students identify the best schools for them in the U.S. Robert Morse, chief data strategist and head of educational research at U.S. News for three decades, leads the Best Global Universities project. Morse and U.S. News have played a significant role in the development of standardized data for U.S. higher education.

"We wanted to use our 30 years of experience in academic rankings to develop a resource that helps students worldwide easily research and compare schools," said Morse.

Each ranked university has a profile page on usnews.com that displays contact information and detailed ranking indicators. Prospective students and their families can also easily search based on region, country or subject of interest. In addition, U.S. News provides tips and resources for international students interested in studying in the U.S.

2015 U.S. News Best Global Universities Rankings

*For the full rankings, visit www.usnews.com/education/best-global-universities

Overall Best Global Universities

1. Harvard University (U.S.)
2. Massachusetts Institute of Technology (U.S.)
3. University of California—Berkeley (U.S.)
4. Stanford University (U.S.)
5. University of Oxford (U.K.)
6. University of Cambridge (U.K.)
7. California Institute of Technology (U.S.)
8. University of California—Los Angeles (U.S.)
9. University of Chicago (U.S.)
10. Columbia University (U.S.)

Best Global Universities in Asia

1. University of Tokyo (Japan)
2. Peking University (China)
3. University of Hong Kong
4. National University of Singapore
5. Kyoto University (Japan)

Best Global Universities in Australia/New Zealand

1. University of Melbourne (Australia)
2. University of Sydney
3. University of Queensland Australia
4. Australian National University
5. Monash University (Australia)

Best Global Universities in Europe

1. University of Oxford (U.K.)
2. University of Cambridge (U.K.)
3. Imperial College London (U.K.)
4. University College London (U.K.)
5. Swiss Federal Institute of Technology Zurich (Switzerland)

Best Global Universities in Latin America

1. Universidade de São Paulo (Brazil)
2. Universidade Federal do Rio de Janeiro (Brazil)
3. Universidade Estadual de Campinas (Brazil)
4. University of Buenos Aires (Argentina)
5. National Autonomous University of Mexico