

# Newspaper Clips

## September 12, 2012

Times Of India ND 12/09/2012

P-12

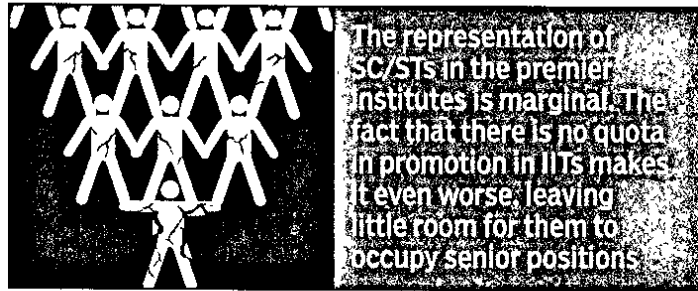
# Quotas fail to break caste ceiling in IITs

Akshaya Mukul | TNN

**New Delhi:** If SCs/STs are abysmally under-represented as faculty members in central universities despite the stated policy of reservation in promotion, their presence in premier IITs is equally marginal. That there is no quota in promotion in IITs makes it even worse, leaving little room for them to occupy senior positions. IITs have reservation only at the entry level of assistant professor.

While many IITs replied to RTI activist Mahendra Pratap Singh, IIT-Delhi and Bombay are yet to give their response. Another query to the Prime Minister's Office about social profile of scientists in the laboratories of Central Scientific & Industrial Research has not evinced any reply.

IIT-Kharagpur, among the oldest, has only three SC professors, two associate professors and two



assistant professors. There are no ST faculty members at all three levels. There are two OBC professors and seven assistant professors, but no associate professor. However, in the general category, there are 227 professors, 105 associate and 165 assistant professors.

IIT-Madras, among the best in its ilk, has three SC professors, three associate professors and four assistant professors. Again, STs are unrepresented in two categories. A lone ST is assistant pro-

fessor. Even OBCs are not there at the level of professor and associate professor, but there are seven assistant professors.

Considering that Tamil Nadu has been the hotbed of social movement, under-representation of marginal castes and STs is intriguing. From the general category there are 212 professors, 91 associate professors and 177 assistant professors.

Moving to the north to IIT-Roorkee, and the situation still

does not change. Among the best in the world as a civil engineering institute, Roorkee has only one SC professor and associate professor. There are six SC and one ST assistant professor. OBCs are better placed in Roorkee with 11 professors, 11 associate professors and seven assistant professors. Among general category, there are 120 professors, 57 associate professors and 133 assistant professors.

With representation so skewed in well-established IITs, new ones can hardly be blamed for not getting enough eligible SC/ST teachers. IIT-Ropar has absolutely no representation from SCs/STs at any position. There are two OBC assistant professors. IIT-Hyderabad has 12 SC, six ST and 22 OBC assistant professors. In IIT-Gandhinagar, there are only two OBC assistant professors, while SCs/STs have no representation at the three levels.

HT, Mumbai

## IIT-B IS INDIA'S BEST

**THERE ARE NO** Indian universities among the top 200 varsities, according to QS World University Rankings

**IIT-B FEATURES** as the country's top-ranked varsity and is ranked 36 among Asian universities

**IIT-B RANKED 186** globally in 2010, the last time an Indian university was ranked in the top 200.

# India only BRICS country with no institute in world's top 200

ANUBHUTI VISHNOI

NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 11

IF the PISA rankings exposed the poor quality of education in India's schools, the "QS World University Rankings" for 2012 released today showed that our universities and even "institutes of excellence" do not fare any better when compared to their international counterparts.

Not a single Indian university or institute has made it to the top 200 of the Quacquarelli Symonds (QS) rankings — the most reputed global rankings of institutes for higher education.

In 2010, IIT-Bombay was ranked 187, but dropped to 225 last year. This year it is down to 227.

"India remains the only BRICS nation without a univer-

sity in the top 200. Two of the leading three institutions, IIT-Delhi (212) and IIT-Kanpur (278), have improved on their 2011 positions. Yet the comparison with other BRICS nations remains unflattering," writes Danny Byrne, editor of topuniversities.com — the QS rankings website.

Among the top 10 institutes are the Massachusetts Institute

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

## No Indian institute in top 200

of Technology (MIT) in first place, followed by the University of Cambridge, Harvard University, University College London (UCL), University of Oxford, Imperial College London, Yale University, University of Chicago, Princeton University and California Institute of Technology (Caltech) in that order.

From Asia, those in the top 50 include University of Hong Kong (23), National University of Singapore (25), University of Tokyo (30), Kyoto University (35), Seoul National University (37), Chinese University of Hong Kong

(40), China's Peking University (44), Singapore's Nanyang Technological University (47), China's Tsinghua University (48) and Japan's Osaka University (50).

China has seven institutes in the top 200 list.

Even in the Asia rankings, which is topped by the Hong Kong University of Science & Technology, India has just 11 institutes in the top 300 while China, Singapore and South Korea continue to surge ahead. Nine Chinese institutes have moved up the ranks with Peking University ranking better than the University

of Tokyo.

"We see India once again under-performing, with only 11 universities in the rankings, the vast majority of which are various Indian Institutes of Technology. Internationalisation has been identified as a key issue," says a QS analysis of the Asian rankings.

The discipline-wise rankings present a slightly better picture with the IITs ranking among the top 50 engineering institutes. Delhi University too finds a place in the top 50 universities offering English Literature and Linguistics among others.

# MIT dethrones Cambridge as world's top univ

London: UK universities have taken four of the six top slots in a global university "league table" for 2011-12.

With US's Massachusetts Institute of Technology leading the list, UK's Cambridge, which was top last year, stood second and Harvard University ranked third in the QS World University Rankings, based on a number of criteria.

University College, London (UCL), Oxford and Imperial took fourth, fifth and sixth places respectively.

Seventh place was awarded to Yale University, followed by University of Chicago, Princeton University and the tenth position to California Institute of Technology.

Ben Sowter, of QS Research, warned higher fees and new visa rules could see UK universities struggle next year. Students trying to get ahead of a trebling in fees for English undergraduates had produced a surge in applications to start university in autumn 2011, Sowter told BBC News. "We won't know for sure until the 2012 results come in, but we may see a drop off next year," he said.

He also said tougher visa rules for international students could deter some from applying to UK universities.

Just 40% of UK employers agreed visa regulations had helped them hire international graduates — globally the figure was 70% said Sowter. The UK government has been widely criticized by MPs within the past week for tightening the student-visa system. Both argued overseas students



MIT'S THE BEST

## LMU challenges licence revocation

A London-based university, whose licence to admit and teach Indian and other non-EU students was revoked last month by the UK Border Agency (UKBA), on Tuesday filed a judicial review petition in the high court here against the action that affected over 350 Indian students. The judicial review petition is expected to be considered within two days, given the urgency of the situation. ¶¶

should be reclassified so that they would not count towards migration limits, to allow the United Kingdom to continue to expand its share of the overseas student market.

The QS rankings rate the world's top 400 universities, evaluating each institution's strengths in research, teaching, the employability of its graduates and international outlook. ¶¶

## BUILDING INNOVATIONS

>> ATKINS

4 engineering marvels, 1 company! Innovation begins with a vision, believes Atkins. And little did they know that the vision could be translated into reality and transform itself into engineering wonders.

**BAHRAIN WORLD TRADE CENTRE:** Atkins provided multi-disciplinary services for the twin 240m high office towers and



>> Bahrain World Trade Centre

shopping mall of the Bahrain World Trade Center. Atkins achieved a first by aesthetically incorporating commercial wind turbines into the fabric of the building. The three 29m diameter wind turbines and the shape of the paired towers have a direct and tangible relationship via wind dynamics. The Carbon

Critical Design of the Bahrain World Trade Center meant it was fully tenanted by major regional businesses from day one.

**OXFORD CIRCUS:** Oxford Circus' innovative makeover allows shoppers to walk across Oxford Circus diagonally for the first time. Atkins' design was inspired by Tokyo's famous Shibuya Crossing, renowned for allowing people to cross with ease. Their solution enabled all existing barriers and street clutter to be ripped out and remodelled in order to give pedestrians the freedom to move around quickly, both straight ahead and diagonally - across both, Regent Street and Oxford Street.

**NEWPORT RAILWAY STATION:** The redevelopment of Newport Railway Station provides passengers with a bigger, bright and modern station fit for the 21st century. A key priority for Atkins' design team was minimising the building's operational energy demands and carbon emissions. One of the key features in helping to achieve this is the featherweight plastic covering that surrounds the building. It is hundred times lighter than glass and requires a fraction of the steel and concrete support of a normal structure. The cladding is recyclable and is self-cleaning.

**DUBAI METRO:** Atkins provided full multidisciplinary design and management of the civil works on the Dubai Metro. This included geotechnical and site investigations,



## IMAGINEERING INNOVATIONS

>> LARSEN & TOUBRO



>> Innovation in action at the construction site of Sheikh Khalifa interchange being built by L&T linking Emirates of Abu Dhabi and Dubai. Innovative techniques accelerate schedules and enable L&T execute complex infrastructure projects

It is not enough to just think out-of-the-box. An organisation also needs to 'believe out-of-the-box', and act so. And when the company in question is the world's 9th most innovative company, it has to raise the bar really high. This is the kind of environment in which inventive minds transform equipment into systems, and systems morph into solutions.

Since its inception, the company embarked on a journey of creating a culture of innovation by encouraging every employee to unleash their creative potential and constantly look for different ways of undertaking their tasks and add value. The company has created an incubating environment that results in many such moments, and has institutionalised this across geographies and businesses that the company is in. Innovation is seen as everyone's responsibility.



>> Supercritical Turbine assembled at L&T's Hazira Facility - the cleanest and greenest way to generate electricity

*The company has created engineering benchmarks with creations such as:*

- Asia's highest viaduct;
- Developed specialised products like air-circuit breakers;
- Manufactured some of the world's largest, heaviest and thickest equipment;
- The company has established several firsts in contributing to the indigenous development and realisation of India's first space launch vehicle;
- Indigenous nuclear reactor;
- Stabilised naval missile launch platform;
- Nuclear powered submarine.

Innovation in manufacturing processes at L&T's heavy engineering facilities has played a part in putting the company among the world's top five companies in the sector.

ENGINEERING IS THE ART OF ORGANIZING AND DIRECTING MEN AND CONTROLLING THE FORCES AND MATERIALS OF NATURE FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE HUMAN RACE.

- HENRY G STOTT

ENGINEERS PARTICIPATE IN THE ACTIVITIES WHICH MAKE THE RESOURCES OF NATURE AVAILABLE IN A FORM BENEFICIAL TO MAN AND PROVIDE SYSTEMS WHICH WILL PERFORM OPTIMALLY AND ECONOMICALLY.

- L. M. K. BOELTER

ENGINEERING IS THE PRACTICE OF SAFE AND ECONOMIC APPLICATION OF THE SCIENTIFIC LAWS GOVERNING THE FORCES AND MATERIALS OF NATURE BY MEANS OF ORGANIZATION, DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION, FOR THE GENERAL BENEFIT OF MANKIND.

- S. E. LINDSAY

productising specific parts of the delivery process," says

global tax and welfare supports.