

Newspaper Clips September 12, 2014

Hindustan ND12/09/2014

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हार्वर्ड से भी आगे निकले आईआईटी के छात्र

नई दिल्ली | हिन्दुस्तान टैम

अपना कारोबार शुरू करने के मामले में भारतीय तकनीकी संस्थान (आईआईटी) के छात्रों ने हार्वर्ड, कॉर्नेल और मिशिगन जैसी दिग्गज यूनिवर्सिटी को भी पीछाड़ दिया है। दुनिया के शीर्ष 50 विश्वविद्यालयों में आईआईटी चौथे, हार्वर्ड पांचवें, कॉर्नेल सातवें और मिशिगन आठवें स्थान पर है।

कैसे किया अध्ययन : अमेरिका की निजी इक्विटी कंपनी पिचबुक

डाटा के एक अध्ययन में यह बात सामने आई है। 2009 से जुलाई 2014 के बीच हुए इस अध्ययन में 13 हजार कंपनी संस्थापकों को शामिल किया गया था। इसमें पता लगाया गया कि किस विश्वविद्यालय के कितने छात्र संस्थापक बने, उन्होंने कितनी कंपनियां लगाईं और उनसे कितनी पूंजी जुटाई गई।

ऊंची रैंकिंग का यह भी कारण : आईआईटी कानपुर व आईआईएम बंगलुरु के छात्र रहे संगीत पॉल चौधरी ने बताया कि सभी 16 आईआईटी को

एक ही यूनिवर्सिटी माना गया है, ऊंची रैंकिंग का यह भी बड़ा कारण है। पिछले साल सिर्फ अमेरिका में स्थापित की गई कंपनियों की सूची जारी हुई थी। उसमें आईआईटी 10वें स्थान पर था। इस साल भारत में स्थापित कंपनियों को भी जोड़ा गया है, इसलिए यह रैंकिंग चार पर पहुंच गई है। हेलियन एडवाइजर्स के प्रबंध निदेशक आशीष गुप्ता के मुताबिक आईआईटी के अधिकांश छात्र मध्यम वर्गीय परिवारों से आते हैं, इसलिए उनमें सफलता पाने का जूनून ज्यादा होता है।

ये हैं दुनिया के शीर्ष 5 संस्थापक

विश्वविद्यालय	संस्थापक	कंपनियां	जुटाई पूंजी
स्टैनफोर्ड	378	309	\$3.51 अरब
बर्कले	336	284	\$2.41 अरब
एमआईटी	300	250	\$2.41 अरब
आईआईटी	264	205	\$3.15 अरब
हार्वर्ड	253	229	\$3.23 अरब

(सूची से स्पष्ट है कि आईआईटी से निकले 264 छात्र संस्थापक बने, जिन्होंने 205 कंपनियां लगाईं और 3.15 अरब डॉलर जुटाए)

इन्होंने आईआईटी का कद उंचा किया

1. विनोद खोसला : सन माइक्रोसिस्टम्स के संस्थापक
2. भारत देसाई : सिंटेल् के संस्थापक
3. गुरुराज देशपांडे : सिकांमोर नेटवर्क्स के संस्थापक

भारत में प्रवेशित कंपनियों का हिस्सा

33.2% अमेरिकी कंपनियों जो किसी अप्रवासी द्वारा स्थापित की गई हैं, उनका संह-संस्थापक भारतीय ही है

नए कारोबार में क्यों आगे

1. भूतपूर्व छात्रों का बड़ा नेटवर्क होने से पूंजी जुटाना आसान
2. पिलापकाट और स्नेपडील जैसी साइट्स से साबित किया कि बड़ी पूंजी जुटाने में समर्थ हैं
3. माइक्रोसॉफ्ट और गूगल जैसी कंपनियां बड़ी संख्या में भारतीयों को नौकरी दे रही हैं, वहां काम करने के बाद छात्र अपना कारोबार शुरू करने के लिए पर्याप्त परिपक्व हो जाता है
4. आईआईटी में चुने जाने की प्रक्रिया इतनी चुनौतीपूर्ण होती है कि उसके बाद छात्र की कबिलियत को लेकर संदेह नहीं रह जाता

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आईआईटी भी सिखाएगा हिन्दी की बारीकियां



दुनिया में हिन्दी को पहचान दिलाने के लिए हिन्दी के सेनानी पुरजोर कोशिश कर रहे हैं। हिन्दी पखवाड़े पर हिन्दुस्तान इन्हीं सेनानियों के कामों की जानकारी देती एक श्रृंखला शुरू कर रहा है।

नई दिल्ली | अनुराग मिश्र

देश के सबसे प्रतिष्ठित प्रौद्योगिकी संस्थान में से एक माना जाने वाला आईआईटी छात्रों को हिंदी की बारीकियां सिखाएगा। आईआईटी, मुंबई के प्रोफेसर ने एक ऐसी वेबसाइट तैयार की है जो आम व्यक्ति को हिन्दी के विविध पहलुओं से परिचित कराएगी। इस वेबसाइट को तैयार करने वाले आईआईटी के कंप्यूटर इंजीनियरिंग विभाग के प्रोफेसर डॉ. पुष्पक भट्टाचार्य ने एक हिन्दी शब्द तंत्र बनाया है जो हिन्दी के माध्यम से 15 भाषाओं में आपको महारत हासिल करने में मददगार साबित होगा।

www.cfilit.iitb.ac.in नामक ये हिन्दी शब्द तंत्र हिन्दी के शब्दों के अर्थ, उनके पर्यायवाची के साथ-साथ उनके लिंक, उनके कांसेप्ट, उससे संबंधित प्रकार, उनके संभावित भाव आदि के बारे में जानकारी देगा। इस हिन्दी शब्द तंत्र में तमिल, नेपाली, उर्दू, मराठी, कोंकणी, कश्मीरी, कन्नड़, गुजराती और असमी आदि भाषाओं में भी पूरी जानकारी मिल सकेगी। डा. भट्टाचार्य कहते हैं कि कई स्कूलों में इसका प्रयोग बच्चों को हिंदी सिखाने के लिए किया जा रहा है। उन्होंने कहा कि प्रमुख बात यह है कि किसी भाषा को जानने के साथ-साथ उसके विविध पक्षों को भी जान लिया जाए तो उससे



• प्रोफेसर डॉ. पुष्पक भट्टाचार्य

उस भाषा को और बेहतर किया जा सकता है। उदाहरण के तौर पर अगर शहर शब्द के बारे में आप इसमें सर्च करेंगे तो यह आपको शहर शब्द के दुनिया भर में प्रचलित कांसेप्ट, उसके पर्यायवाची, उससे संबंधित प्रकार, उसका प्रयोग कैसे विभिन्न तरीके से

हिन्दी में दोगुने आवेदन

डीयू में विदेशी छात्रों के लिए 1500 सीट आरक्षित हैं। इस बार करीब 2500 छात्रों ने हिन्दी के लिए आवेदन किया है। कोरिया, फ्रांस, चीन, जापान और अफ्रीका आदि से छात्रों ने आवेदन किए हैं।

किया जा सकता है इसके बारे में जानकारी दे देगा। हिन्दी शब्द तंत्र से ही जुड़ी आईआईटी की प्रोफेसर डा. लक्ष्मी का कहना है कि इस तंत्र में सभी हिन्दी शब्दों को शामिल किया गया है। साथ ही मुहावरे, कहावतों आदि को भी शामिल किया गया है।

आवेदन बढ़ने का कारण

हिन्दी भाषा विदेशों में काफी अधिक पढ़ी जाती है। विदेशों में हिन्दी पढ़ने वाले छात्रों का कहना है कि वह भारतीय संस्कृति के प्रति अपनी रुचि के लिए हिन्दी भाषा को अपनाते हैं। साथ ही वह अपने व्यक्तित्व के विकास के लिए भी हिन्दी की व्यावहारिक शिक्षा प्राप्त करते हैं। भारत के विभिन्न राज्यों की विविधता को जानने के लिए भी विभिन्न देशों में रहने वाले छात्र हिन्दी सीखते हैं। इसके अलावा दिल्ली विश्वविद्यालय में पढ़ने वाले के विभिन्न छात्र भी विदेशों से यहां पर पढ़ने आने वाले छात्रों को हिन्दी का ट्यूशन भी देते हैं। इस वजह से विदेशी छात्रों को भी हिन्दी भाषा को अपनाने में आसानी होती है।

Smriti pitches for new education policy

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The HRD Ministry has tasked the Central Universities and appealed to other universities to institute a chair for post-doctoral studies in the name of Swami Vivekananda.

HRD Minister Smriti Irani on Thursday said that to commemorate the historic speech of Vivekananda at Chicago, the universities have been indicated to start a research programme in his name.

"Since today (Thursday) is September 11, the day when Swami Vivekananda gave that historic speech in Chicago, I take this opportunity to appeal to all vice chancellors across all Central, State and deemed universities that the University Grants Commission (UGC) has proposed a plan whereby chairs can be set up in the name of Swami Vivekananda so that his philosophy, teachings and life can be researched upon and studied. I appeal to all these institutions to avail of this particular grant by the UGC," Irani told mediapersons while enlisting the 100 days' achievements of her Ministry. Swami Vivekananda's speech at the World's Parliament of

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— HRD MINISTER SMRITI IRANI

Religions on this day in 1893 made him famous as a "Messenger of Indian wisdom to the Western world".

Emphasising on a new education policy for the country, Irani said deliberations will begin from next year on the issue and a "review" will be carried out for efficient implementation of the Right to Education and Sarva Siksha Abhiyan programme.

Irani though rejected allegations that her Ministry was trying to push books written by Hindutva ideologues, saying it will abide by "constitutional modalities" before taking any step.

She also said that a recently submitted report, which examined the no-detention policy in classes, will be taken up for deliberation at the next

meeting of the Central Advisory Board of Education.

To a question on whether her Ministry would be introducing books written by RSS ideologue Dinanath Batra and which are taught in classes in Gujarat, she said these were mere reports coming in sections of media.

Batra is reported to have sent proposals to Irani demanding revamp of school curriculum inculcating 'values and nationalism' in students. Some of his books have also been translated into Gujarati to be part of the State's school curriculum.

Laying stress on girls education, Irani said her Government was committed to provide friendly environment in schools for them and said steps are being taken to realise

MODI RECALLS VIVEKANANDA'S MESSAGE

New Delhi: Recalling Swami Vivekananda's message of universal brotherhood, Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Thursday said had his message been followed history would never have witnessed dastardly acts like the 9/11 terror attack in the US. Marking the anniversary of Vivekananda's message of universal brotherhood, the Prime Minister noted that the soul-stirring address was delivered at the World Parliament of Religions in Chicago on September 11, 1893.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi's vision of having girls toilets in schools by July next year.

Irani also expressed concern over incidents of ragging and said messages have been sent to all schools to take strong actions against those found involved. A special scholarship Scheme for students of North East Region named Ishan Uday has also been launched.

HRD ministry to launch e-education courses from top institutes like IIT and IIM

<http://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/politics-and-nation/hrd-ministry-to-launch-e-education-courses-from-top-institutes-like-iit-and-iim/articleshow/42305368.cms>

NEW DELHI: The ministry of human resource development will roll out a host of digital initiatives including free online courses from top institutions, a national e-library for students and a dedicated portal to help students make informed choices about higher education, HRD minister Smriti Irani said on Thursday.

Central universities, Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs) and Indian Institutes of Management (IIMs) will soon start offering massive open online courses (MOOCs), or courses offered on the internet with unlimited participation, free of cost, Irani said in her first press conference after joining office.

The e-library, which will be launched next year, will allow students to access content from premier educational institutions.

The online portal, 'Know Your College', will be a repository of information related to all universities and colleges and will allow students to have their grievances redressed in case they have been misled by an institute or college.

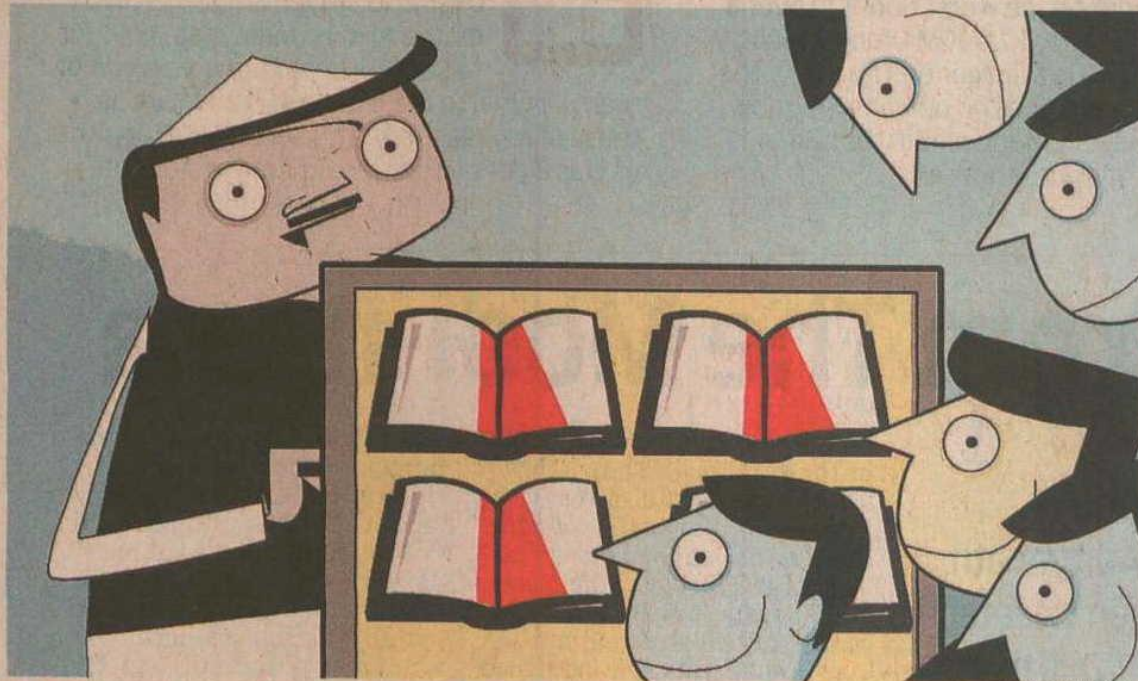
The HRD minister also announced that a national and state-level deliberation on the new education policy will begin in January next year. She did not comment on whether the new policy would incorporate the four-year format for undergraduate courses, but said, "During the national, state and regional level debates we will discuss how the courses should be structured." Irani also said Prime Minister Narendra Modi's interaction with children on the Teacher's Day on September 5 was viewed by almost 9.5 crore students across 8.5 lakh schools in the country.

The HRD minister evaded questions on whether a similar exercise be held on the Children's Day on November 14, the birthday of the country's first prime minister Jawaharlal Nehru. "You will have to wait for it till the time comes," Irani said.

NEW EDUCATION POLICY

HRD to Launch Digital Drive for Education

Smriti Irani announces free online courses, e-Library for students



ANIRBAN BORA

Our Political Bureau

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India offers the cheapest, but not best, undergraduate degree

Australia is most expensive, finds HSBC survey

OUR BUREAU

New Delhi, September 11

India is the least expensive country for foreign undergraduate students in terms of education and living expenses, a new survey has found.

Cost of education

According to HSBC's latest survey *The Value of Education: Springboard for success*, Australia, Singapore and the US occupy the top three positions in the expenditure chart for overseas students.

In India, the average annual cost (including university fees and living expenditure) for an undergraduate overseas student is \$5,643, of which \$581 is university fees.

Australia, at \$42,093 a year, offers the most expensive college degree, followed by Singapore at

\$39,229 and the US at \$36,565. Overseas undergraduate students need to shell out around \$35,045 a year to study in the UK, the survey noted.

The report surveyed over 4,500 parents in 15 countries.

Emerging markets cheaper

Sanjiv Sud, Head of Retail Banking and Wealth Management, HSBC India, said, "Education costs are lower in emerging markets such as India because the state-run universities are heavily funded by the Government and also the cost of living for overseas students is lower here."

In terms of quality, about 62 per cent of Indian parents ranked the country among their top three destinations.

Countries such as UK (54 per cent) and Australia (47 per cent) are ranked second and third in

Value of education

Country	Annual University fee (\$)	Annual cost of living (\$)	Total cost each year (\$)	Rank by cost
Australia	24,081	18,012	42,093	1
Singapore	18,937	20,292	39,229	2
US	24,914	11,651	36,565	3
UK	21,365	13,680	35,045	4
Hong Kong	13,444	18,696	32,140	5
Canada	16,746	13,201	29,947	6
France	247	16,530	16,777	7
Malaysia	2,453	10,488	12,941	8
Indonesia	4,378	8,527	12,905	9
Brazil	59	12,569	12,628	10
Taiwan	3,338	8,573	11,911	11
Turkey	1,276	10,089	11,365	12
China	3,844	6,886	10,730	13
Mexico	750	8,710	9,460	14
India	581	5,062	5,643	15

Source: HSBC Survey

terms of quality of education by Indian parents, followed by their home country (46 per cent).

India, however, ranks eighth in terms of quality of educa-

tion among the 15 countries with just five per cent of respondents putting it in their top their preferred destinations, the survey added.

Central varsity V-Cs to discuss faculty crunch, education standards

ADITI TANDON

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 11

For two days starting tomorrow, Vice-Chancellors of all 40 Central Universities will congregate in Chandigarh to discuss concerns around higher education standards and reigning faculty shortages.

HRD Minister Smriti Irani will open the two day (September 12, 13) meeting tomorrow and flag issues for V-Cs' deliberation. Topmost among items on the agenda are poor progress on the front of mandatory accreditation of higher educational institutions by the National Assessment and Accreditation Centre and the National Board for Accreditation; and shortage of faculty.

The UGC had last year

issued a notification specifying norms for mandatory accreditation and a period of six months had been given to the existing institutions to comply. Responses are learnt to be poor.

Another issue of concern is the whopping 54 pc faculty crunch in higher educational institutions. The Central universities are vulnerable on this front with a government committee set up earlier to figure out faculty shortage pointing out that of the total sanctioned faculty strength of 13,514 in Central universities, over 4,000 were unfilled. The new Central universities set up in 2009 are among the worst on faculty position.

Guru Ghasi Das Vidhwavidyalaya, Chhattisgarh, (converted into a Central uni-

versity in 2009) has a high faculty shortage of over 50 per cent as per the government taskforce on faculty shortage. Hari Singh Gaur University in Madhya Pradesh's Sagar, another university upgraded in 2009, has many vacancies.

The University of Allahabad is no better with over 40 per cent sanctioned posts unfilled. Even the University of Delhi is reeling under teacher shortage and unfilled posts are over 50 per cent.

Besides faculty crunch, the vice chancellors will also discuss the proposed national rankings framework on which the IITs are working. PM Narendra Modi has mooted a national ranking which will judge institutions on the basis of domestic factors, challenges and performances.

26 varsities fail to follow UGC order on online portal

<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/City/Kolhapur/26-varsities-fail-to-follow-UGC-order-on-online-portal/articleshow/42291511.cms>

KOLHAPUR: As many as 26 universities from across the state, including the government-aided as well as deemed ones, have failed to comply with the University Grants Commission's (UGC) directives of appointing nodal officer for the online grievance portal for students, which will be launched soon.

The erring universities include the government-aided RTM Nagpur University and Shivaji University, Kolhapur (SUK) as well as deemed ones such as D Y Patil University and Homi Bhabha National Institute in Mumbai. Even the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Powai, has failed to comply with the norms and has been mentioned in the UGC's reminder.

In July, the UGC had announced that it is set to start a grievance portal for students and had instructed the universities to appoint and send a nodal officer's name for the purpose before July 24. UGC had said that the students can file their grievances online, which would be monitored, redressed and observed within a certain time period.

However, despite the earlier communication, the required information is still awaited from many universities across the country, stated a letter published by UGC's secretary Jaspal Sandhu on the commission's website on September 8.

The UGC has published a list of 450 such universities from across the country, of which 26 are from the state. Sandhu has asked all the universities to comply with the norms and send names of the nodal officers on an urgent basis.

SUK vice-chancellor N J Pawar said the university has sent the required information and that he was not aware of the university's name being published on the UGC's list. However, Pawar refused to talk further about the issue.

The UGC has also urged all the universities to appoint in-charge of the grievance redressal cell, who will act as the nodal officer and monitor and respond to the students' complaints registered in the portal.

The nodal officers have also been made responsible for handling grievances of colleges affiliated to their university. They will have to report the action taken and status of grievances on the portal. Arjun Rajage, director of Board of Colleges and University Development in the SUK, had earlier said, "The grievance system will be transparent and help students in tracking their complaints online." He had assured that the nodal officer will be appointed within the deadline.

The UGC says the online portal would enable the commission and the universities to understand the nature of students' grievances and redress them in a short time.

About the portal

* The students studying in universities and affiliated colleges will have the option of registering their grievances related to admissions, unfair practices and other issues on it

* The students will be able to track the status of their grievances online

* It would enable the commission, universities and colleges to understand the nature of students' grievances, monitor and redress the same

Current scenario

* Every college and university has grievance redressal cell and grievance redressal committee

* A suggestion box has been installed at every college and university for the students, where they can submit their complaints, suggestions or grievances

* The members of the grievance redressal committee open the suggestion box on a weekly basis in presence of the students' representative

* Depending on the gravity of the grievances, a solution is drawn accordingly and conveyed to the students

* The entire process generally takes 3-4 weeks

Times of India, ND 12/09/2014 P-17

HRD minister ducks credit for scrapping of FYUP programme

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New Delhi: HRD minister Smriti Z Irani's interaction with media showcasing achievement of her ministry's first 100 days was more about the roadmap ahead and a series of announcements of programmes bearing Sanskritized-Hindi names like Saksham, Ishan Uday, Ishan Vikas, Swayam etc. Universities were asked to encourage research on Vivekananda's life and teachings.

Scrapping of four-year undergraduate programme was not mentioned though cre-

ation of new IITs and IIMs, toilets in schools, *padhe bharat*, *badhe bharat* and *beti bachao beti padhao abhiyan* were highlighted. So were appointments of women in IIT Council and IAS, Shimla. New cen-

ROADMAP

tral universities announced in 100 days are mostly commitments of the past. For instance, the new one in Bihar was agreed by the previous government and one in Andhra Pradesh was due to bifurcation of the state. Andhra Pradesh does not have an IIT or central university and thus

the announcement was part of the package by the previous government.

A short film made at the cost of a few lakh rupees was an attempt to give a comprehensive picture of the achievement of school education while the higher education department concentrated on a slew of new programmes. It needs to be emphasized that most of the programmes concentrate on girl child especially drawing them to science. Ten goalposts of IITs have been identified.

For the full report, log on to www.timesofindia.com

HT.COM ND 12.09.2014 P-3

GOVT MAY SCRAP THE BID FOR AAKASH TABS

HT Correspondent

NEW DELHI: The government may scrap bids for the latest version of the world's cheapest tablet Aakash as none of the vendors short-listed by the previous UPA government met the Indian Institute of Technology Bombay's specifications.

Aakash was launched by former HRD minister as the world's cheapest access device under the National Mission on Education in 2010 with the initial price of about \$35. But, there were many questions over quality of the device with the government deciding to transfer its research and development to IIT Bombay from IIT Rajasthan.

A technical committee was constituted under Rajat Moona of IIT-B to evolve specifications Aakash. Sources said the ministry asked the technical committee in April 2014 to consider relaxation of some of the major specifications.

Modi's 100 day bonanza: 5 more IITs, 6 IIMs; Andhra Pradesh gets both

<http://indiatoday.intoday.in/story/modi-100-day-bonanza-more-iits-iims-andhra-pradesh-gets-both/1/382251.html>

The Narendra Modi government on Thursday announced plans to establish five new Indian Institutes of Technology and six Indian Institutes of Management to mark the completion of its 100 days in power.

The proposed IITs are to be established in Kerala, Goa, Chhattisgarh, Andhra Pradesh and Jammu and Kashmir.

The prestigious IIMs are to come up in Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Punjab, Odisha, Maharashtra and Himachal Pradesh.

In the run-up to the Lok Sabha polls, Modi had promised an IIT, IIM and the All India Institute of Medical Sciences in every state of India.

Smriti Irani for chairs in Swami Vivekananda's name in

Hindustan Times (Chandigarh)

NEW DELHI: Human Resource Development (HRD) minister Smriti Irani on Thursday made an appeal to all the vice chancellors of the universities to establish a chair in the name of Swami Vivekananda.

She made the appeal while listing her ministry's achievements during the first three months of NDA government's tenure.

“Since on this day in 1893, Swami Vivekananda gave his historic speech in Chicago, I take this opportunity to appeal to all vice chancellors across all central, state and deemed universities that the University Grants Commission (UGC) has proposed a plan whereby chairs can be set up in the name of Swami Vivekananda so that his philosophy, teachings and life can be researched upon and studied.”

Prime Minister Narendra Modi also invoked Vivekananda to convey the message of universal brotherhood on Thursday, on the 12th anniversary of the terror attack on twin towers of World Trade Centre.

The PM felt that if the world had followed Vivekananda's message of universal brotherhood, 9/11 would perhaps have never happened. “There are two images of 11th September — one of the trails of destruction in 2001 and the other — the message of Swami Vivekananda in 1893. Had we followed Swamiji's message, history would never have witnessed such dastardly acts as we saw on 11th September 2001 in USA,” the PM said.

Women, look at math & science: GM CEO

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Mary Barra didn't just break the glass ceiling, she drove a truck through it when she took over as global CEO of General Motors in January 2014, making her the first woman to head a major company in the notoriously testosterone-driven automobile industry.

Unsurprisingly, the media

TOI EXCLUSIVE

went berserk over the electrical engineer and Stanford MBA, who joined GM as an intern in 1980 (following her father into the company) and has never worked anywhere else.

But Barra's honeymoon didn't last too long, and she

“I have never looked at it that way (being a woman CEO in a male-dominated industry). I work in an industry that is incredibly exciting, challenging, competitive, global and ever-changing. It's an industry that I love and I am the second generation of my family in it. We (GM) are a five-year-old company with 100 years of lessons learned

—MARY BARRA | CEO, GM



found herself appearing before the US Congress in April to answer for faulty ignition switches linked to 13 deaths — a problem that led to the recall of millions of vehicles. Barra's contrite apology was widely appreciated but she

remains aware that she has a lot to do if she has to deliver on her avowed promise of bringing about a “new GM” and regaining customer trust

Barra, 52, is now on her first visit to India after taking over as CEO. GM has had its

share of problems here too. It is yet to make a profit despite being in the country for almost two decades, and has faced allegations of corporate fraud over issues related to the recall of multi-purpose vehicle Tavera. Still, the first question that Barra is inevitably asked is about being a trendsetter and whether this heralds a new trend of women in corner rooms.

“I have never looked at it that way. I work in an industry that is incredibly exciting. It's challenging, competitive, global and ever changing. It's an industry that I love and I am the second generation of my family in it. I've had big opportunities being presented to me by GM

throughout my career and have been able to work in many different parts of the business,” she told TOI in an exclusive interview.

However, she added, “I think that something that is very strong about GM and also true about GM India is that it provides great opportunity to women.”

What advice does she have for young women, especially those studying in a developing economy like India? “Anytime I get an opportunity to talk, I encourage women to look into the math and science arena,” she said. As an engineer herself, she's certainly walked the talk.

► Continued on P 22

Won't hesitate to recall more vehicles if need arises: Barra

► Continued from P1

Ask GM CEO Mary Barra about the automaker's problems and she is quick to spring to her beloved company's defence.

“How I look at it is that we are a five-year-old company with 100 years of lessons learnt,” she said, in an apparent reference to GM's announcement of bankruptcy in 2009, following which it was saved after the intervention of the US government. “We will be foolish not to look at the lessons learnt in the past to build on the future. We are 100% forward looking.”

Speaking about GM's operations in India, she said the company is going through a

transformation and restructuring to build on the future. “All I can say is that the past is past. We will focus on the future which would mean having the right products; keeping the customers at the centre of what we do; and being a leader in safety and quality.” Barra made a visit to the company's plant in Maharashtra and also met GM's suppliers and dealers. “We have a huge focus on improving the quality. Our teams have visited the plants and made assessments to improve the quality of manufacturing.”

Speaking about the massive recall announcements made by GM, she said the company has “substantially

completed” the exercise. “We're working hard to make sure that as new vehicles come out, they achieve even higher levels of quality and safety. We are very focused on being industry leaders,” she said, but added that the company would not hesitate to call back more vehicles if the need arises.

“We've really benchmarked with the aerospace industry, the nuclear industry, industries that require a true zero-defect mentality,” Barra said. “But if at any point of time, we learn there's an issue, we're going to put the customer in the centre, and we're going to take care of the issue and if that means a recall, we'll do a recall.” TNN

एचआरडी मंत्रालय ने 100 दिन में की 19 संस्थानों की घोषणा

नई दिल्ली (ब्यूरो)। मानव संसाधन विकास मंत्रालय ने कहा है कि उनसे 100 दिन के अंदर 19 शिक्षण संस्थान बनाने का ऐलान किया है। आंध्र प्रदेश, जम्मू कश्मीर, छत्तीसगढ़, गोवा और केरल में पांच नए आईआईटी तो हिमाचल प्रदेश, आंध्र प्रदेश, पंजाब, महाराष्ट्र, बिहार और उड़ीसा में पांच आईआईएम बनाने की घोषणा की गई।

आंध्र प्रदेश में एक केंद्रीय विश्वविद्यालय, एक जनजातीय विश्वविद्यालय, मध्य प्रदेश में जयप्रकाशनेशनल सेंटर फॉर एक्सीलेंस इन ह्यूमेनिटीज, बिहार में महात्मा गांधी केंद्रीय विश्वविद्यालय समेत चार नए केंद्रीय विश्वविद्यालय बनाने की भी घोषणा की गई।

Indian Alumni of Ivy League B-Schools Hold Aspirants' Hands

Consultancies help aspirants with coaching on resume writing, essays and interviews; get them to position themselves better

Flying High: Admission Consultants Are In Demand

Rising awareness of global MBA education Increase in GMAT applications Growing emphasis on diversity in global B-schools

WINNING STREAK

Admissions Gateway

Reported a 45% rise in client intake over the past two years. Applicants have secured scholarships worth ₹90 lakh at Stanford, ₹75 lakh at Kellogg and Darden, and ₹30 lakh each at Wharton and Booth, with total scholarships totalling ₹11.75 crore in the past two seasons

Reachivv

Applicants include a former scriptwriter for Ekta Kapoor, an employee of a premium chocolate company and the owner of a design agency

PythaGurus

Serviced applicants from Rohtak, Ambala and Chandigarh. The firm has helped 57 applicants when it started out in 2009. Working on around 70 applications this year



UPNESH

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New Delhi: Pragna Kolli makes for an unusual candidate at The Wharton School of The University of Pennsylvania. Currently in her second year of MBA at the Ivy League business (B) school, she was the first woman to have worked on long distance trains in South India. Kolli was a train ticket examiner (TTE) on moving trains as well as a squad TTE on the ground conducting supply checks, her profile, in stark contrast to the scores of Wall Street devotees and IIT engineers with stellar scores and pedigree competing with each other for a seat at the B-school every year.

"Forget global exposure, I didn't even have corporate exposure early on," said Kolli who had done her long distance undergraduate education from Osmania University. Hailing from a modest background, Kolli had worked on trains since she was 17. She has travelled thus far thanks to Admissions Consulting firm Admissions Gateway, run by Kellogg alumnus Rajdeep Chimni.

Kovid Gupta, a former scriptwriter with Balaji Telefilms, also wanted to study in a top B-school. But he found it difficult to articulate his own professional long-term vision and expectations from B-schools in his application essays. He approached Mumbai-based admissions consultancy Reachivv. Today he's studying at Johnson Graduate School of Management at Cornell.

Kolli and Gupta are among hundreds of Indians with diverse backgrounds and work experience who are increasingly turning to specialist admission consultancies such as Reachivv, Admissions Gateway and PythaGurus to realise their dream of doing MBA at a top global business school. Run by alumni of top notch B-schools, these firms help students through the exhaustive process of applying to global B-schools, and assist in honing their applications through

coaching on resume writing and essays. Rising awareness of global MBA education, an increase in GMAT applications and a growing emphasis on diversity in global B-schools have convinced an increasing number of Indian candidates to seek expert help for applying at top B-schools.

"I realised that given the immense competition, Indian applicants need to be smarter about positioning themselves, have to network better and communicate well. Having gone through a hard time before succeeding enables me to put myself in the applicants' and re-applicants' shoes, and understand them better," said Rajdeep Chimni, who founded Admissions Gateway.

After failing to get through any top B-school in 2005 despite having a high GMAT score, Chimni reapplied in 2006 and gained six admissions with scholarships, which inspired him to set up a firm to assist Indian students crack the world's top 15 B-schools the very next year.

Admissions Gateway, which has advisors such as spiritual guru Deepak Chopra and American venture capitalist and Booth alumnus Venetia Kontogouris on its board, helps Indian candidates understand and position their unique life and work experience in their resume, essays and interviews.

Chimni said around 43% of Admissions Gateway's applicants have been making it to top B-schools like Stanford and Wharton over the past few years. He said client intake has increased 45% over the last two years.

A high GMAT score is a significant though not the sole precursor of landing a seat in an Ivy League B-school. Applications can be stretched and exhausting, with each school demanding

REACHING OUT

Consultants pick the relevant details from applicants' profiles and highlight their competencies, help them look at their story from a different lens and even flesh out creative ideas for essays

different statements of purpose and intent in addition to a compelling work experience, and other additional accomplishments.

Vibha Kagzi, a Harvard Business School graduate who founded Reachivv right after her graduation in the summer of 2011, like Chimni, was inspired by her own experience. "My undergraduate experience was a shot in the dark. I felt if someone had provided me structured help at the time of applying, I could have managed to get through a better university at the undergraduate level as well."

Kagzi, a Carnegie Mellon undergraduate, Gurgaon based PythaGurus co-founded by former Accenture consultant and Darden School of Business alumnus Jatin Bhandari, has serviced applicants from Rohtak, Ambala and Chandigarh. The firm, which helped 57 applicants when it started out in 2009, is working on 70 applications this year. Bhandari said his firm had helped place students in schools like Insead, Wharton, London Business School and Tuck School of Business for the current academic year.

Kolli credits Chimni for bringing out the best in her. She said the biggest value add was his patience and pep talks, and the fact that he had been an Indian student at a top B-school himself.

"He knew what the schools wanted, and assured me that I stood a chance because of my unique life story even when I had given up hope. Like the ability to separate wheat from the chaff, he picked relevant details from my profile, and helped improve my applications," she said. Chimni helped highlight leadership competencies of Kolli's unusual role. Kolli had assumed a managerial role as a squad TT and was working with a team.

Miloni Shah, a Harvard Business School graduate, said she had wasted a month with an American counsellor who didn't add any value to her applications before approaching Reachivv, which helped her look at her story through a different lens and flesh out creative ideas for essays. The success rate of applicants landing admissions to top B-schools through Reachivv and PythaGurus could not be ascertained, while Admissions Gateway put its success rate at 97%.

Admission Gateway's applicants have secured scholarships worth ₹90 lakh at Stanford, ₹75 lakh at Kellogg and Darden, and ₹30 lakh each at Wharton and Booth, with total scholarships totalling ₹11.75 crore in the last two seasons.

When Rohan Khanna (name changed) approached Admissions Gateway last year, he was downbeat. Khanna had just been rejected, dinged, in admissions terminology, by three of the world's top B-schools - MIT Sloan, Harvard and Wharton. He had also tried consulting the world's top MBA admission consultants - Stacy Blackman, and Sandy Kreisberg - founder of Cambridge Essay Service and cited as a B-school admissions guru. Khanna had a good work experience, was a student turned entrepreneur doing well, but a second division engineer minus the IIT tag. There was no chance he was going to make it, he was told. He has now managed to crack one of the world's top B-schools this year on a fully funded scholarship of ₹75 lakh.

ON THE FLIPSIDE

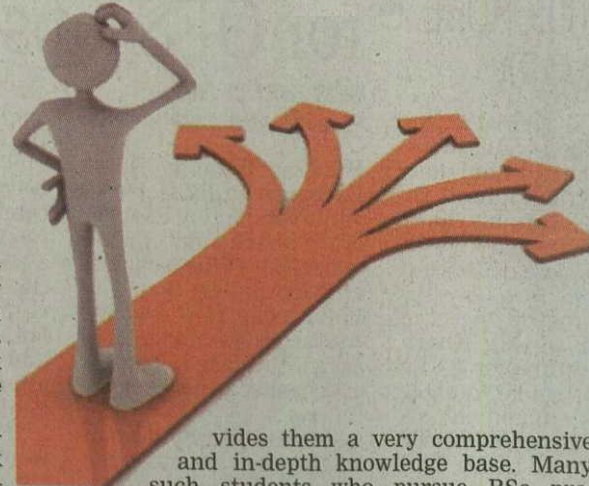
WHAT IF YOU DON'T CRACK YOUR ENGINEERING ENTRANCE EXAMS? AAKASH CHAUDHURY HAS THE ANSWERS

There is no denying the fact that cracking the engineering entrance exams is a dream shared by many students. These exams are not only tough and competitive, but also one of the most prestigious feats one can accomplish in life. But failing to crack the entrance exams does not mean the end of the world.

There are many examples of highly successful professionals and business people who couldn't crack competitive exams that allow admission into prestigious institutions. They considered other options and moved on. Of course, even you should consider moving on but only after knowing that you have given the exam your best shot. If you feel you couldn't give in your best in one attempt, you might devote another year to rigorous coaching. And if you feel you've done all that you could and have performed to the best of your abilities, taking up other alternative career paths, that are equally rewarding and lucrative, could be an option.

You can look at the top rung private colleges that have a good track record of imparting education and organising placements for their students. Try getting into one of those in a stream of your choice. You can get a good job after studying at such colleges as well. It is true that you won't get the "IIT stamp" on your resume but you can make up for that after acquiring the requisite skills and knowledge. There are many world-renowned personalities who are college dropouts and have created history.

If you truly love Science and have a scientific bent of mind, making a mark in the field won't be difficult. Students, who don't make the cut for engineering colleges, often decide to study pure science, which pro-



vides them a very comprehensive and in-depth knowledge base. Many such students who pursue BSc programmes invariably end up falling in love with their course and follow it up with a fulfilling career in research or academics.

Another lucrative option for those who don't make it to an engineering college of their choice is changing the stream and opting for courses like BBA or others in finance. These options are viable for engineering students because they are used to playing with numbers. Finance, Actuarial Sciences, Investment Banking et al are some of the high-paying careers and studying for them is no mean feat.

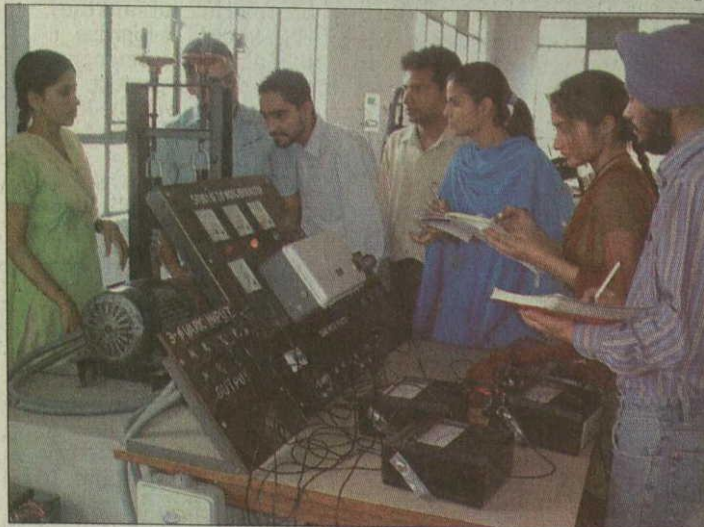
Students can also attempt to enter creative fields like Advertising and Public Relations.

However, if you still want to stick to engineering and changing the track isn't an option, you could consider universities abroad. Some international universities are certainly at par with top-notch Indian Engineering colleges; these can be given due thought. Of course, one must consider the finances and the situation at home before making this decision. If you'll be taking a student loan to study abroad, make sure you only opt for the crème de la crème.

Consult a good career counsellor who can offer help in the application process for foreign universities.

Career counsellors can conduct aptitude tests for you and throw more light on the matter. They can help you clearly understand your strengths and weaknesses and help gauge the most suitable career path for you. If your strength lies in an area like finance, then it wouldn't be entirely logical to pay a hefty fee to study engineering in an institution abroad.

Reaching out to seniors from school who are or have been in a similar position is also a good idea. With the advent of social media, it is easier to contact those you've known from your alma mater. Get in touch with them and get an idea of how they approached the dilemma. You will get help from their tips and how they handled the situation. They will also be able to give you more insights on other alternatives available.



Bee bacteria as alternative to antibiotics?

Honey Has Broader Spectrum

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London: Scientists now say that lactic acid bacteria found in honeybees have shown promising results as an alternative to antibiotics in a series of studies at Lund University in Sweden.

The group of bacteria counteracted antibiotic-resistant MRSA in lab experiments. The bacteria blend has already been tested on horses and healed persistent wounds. Raw honey was used to treat infections for millennia before it was processed and sold in stores.

Researchers identified a unique group of 13 lactic acid bacteria found in fresh honey, from the honey stomach of bees. The bacteria produce a myriad of active antimicrobial compounds. The bacteria were mixed with honey and applied to 10 horses whose owners had tried several other methods to no avail. All of the horses' wounds were healed by the mixture.

The researchers believe the secret to the strong results

lie in the broad spectrum of active substances involved.

"Antibiotics are mostly one active substance, effective against only a narrow spectrum of bacteria. When used alive, these 13 lactic acid bacteria produce the right kind of antimicrobial compounds as needed. But since store-bought honey doesn't contain the living lactic acid bacteria many of its unique properties have been lost in recent times," said Tobias Olofsson, professor of Medical Microbiology.

The study said, "Today due to overuse of antibiotics and emerging antibiotic-resistant pathogens, we are facing a new era of searching for alternative tools against infectious diseases. Chronic wounds infected by pathogens are subjects for intensive research efforts because of the bacteria's ability to sustain antibiotic treatment and maintain chronic infections."

The findings could be vital both in developing countries, where fresh honey is easily available.

• For the full report, log on to www.timesofindia.com