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NEW HOPE

IITs to consider Class XII marks for admission if student clears JEE(A)

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CHENNAI: In a significant decision which is set to benefit students aspiring to enter the IITs, the Council meet of the prestigious institutions here on Monday decided to consider students with 75 per cent and above in Class XII board examinations, provided they have cleared Joint Entrance Examination (advanced).

The 48th meeting of the council of the IITs, chaired by Union HRD minister Smriti Irani, took the

decision and prescribed minimum percentage in Class XII boards' examination for admission to IITs.

The issue was taken up after some 200 students, who cleared the JEE examination, could not get admission in the ongoing academic session as they did not figure in the top 20 percentile, which is a must as per current norms.

"In addition to the top-20 percentile condition, it has been decided now to give another provision [to aspirants seeking admission], which is the marks secured in the board exams,"

Ashok Thakur, HRD secretary told press persons here.

As per the new norms, an aspiring OBC and general category candidate should have secured 75 per cent marks and those belonging to SC, ST, and physically challenged categories should have got 70 per cent marks.

The HRD ministry is also working on a ranking system for institutes of higher learning in the country and has given the responsibility to prepare a framework for evolving a system to the heads of IIT Chennai and IIT Kanpur.

Economic Times ND 23/09/2014 P-1

स्टूडेंट्स को IIT में मिलेगी बिजनेस की ट्रेनिंग

[ईटी ब्यूरो | नई दिल्ली]

आईआईटी ने देश को कई आंत्रप्रेन्योरस दिए हैं। इनमें फिलपकार्ट और स्नैपडील के फाउंडर्स भी शामिल हैं। कई आईआईटी में इनक्यूबेशन सेल भी हैं, जो अच्छा काम कर रहे हैं। इनक्यूबेशन सेल उद्यमियों को तैयार करते हैं।

आईआईटी मद्रास तो स्टार्टअप फंड भी जुटा रहा है। अब आईआईटी फॉर्मल ढंग से आंत्रप्रेन्योरशिप पढ़ाने की भी तैयारी कर रहे हैं। आईआईटी

दिल्ली, खड़गपुर और हैदराबाद अपने बीटेक कोर्स में इसे शामिल करने की तैयारी कर रहे हैं। वहां अगले साल से ये कोर्स शुरू होंगे। ये संस्थान इस पहल को लीड कर रहे हैं। वहीं आईआईटी मद्रास, मुंबई, गांधीनगर, कानपुर, पटना और मंडी ने भी करिकुलम में आंत्रप्रेन्योरशिप को शामिल करने के लिए कुछ छोटे कदम उठाए हैं। इनवेस्टर्स का कहना है कि इनसे आईआईटी और देश में आंत्रप्रेन्योरशिप कल्चर को बढ़ावा मिल सकता है।

मुंबई एंजेल्स के फाउंडर और के कैपिटल के मैनेजिंग पार्टनर साशा मीरचंदानी ने कहा, 'आईआईटी की

बीटेक कोर्स में IIT इंटीग्रेटिंग आंत्रप्रेन्योरशिप कोर्स

आईआईटी खड़गपुर

अगले साल से माइनर कोर्स शुरू करने की योजना

आईआईटी हैदराबाद

अगले साल से वैकल्पिक कोर्स शुरू करने का प्लान

आईआईटी गांधीनगर

आंत्रप्रेन्योरशिप में वैकल्पिक और माइनर कोर्स की पढ़ाई

इस पहले से उन स्टूडेंट्स को फायदा होगा, जो बिजनेस फैमिली में पैदा नहीं हुए हैं लेकिन अपनी कंपनी चलाने की हसरत रखते हैं। अगर फैकल्टी मेंबर्स आंत्रप्रेन्योरशिप के बारे में पढ़ाएंगे तो स्टूडेंट्स की दिलचस्पी स्टार्टअप और बिजनेस में बढ़ेगी।' आईआईटी दिल्ली ने

हाल ही में आंत्रप्रेन्योरशिप पर कोर्स शुरू किया है। यह आगे चलकर माइनर कोर्स में बदल सकता है। आईआईटी दिल्ली में मेकेनिकल इंजीनियरिंग डिपार्टमेंट के पी वी मधुसूदन राव ने यह जानकारी दी है। पटना आईआईटी भी आंत्रप्रेन्योरशिप में माइनर कोर्स शुरू करने की तैयारी कर

रहा है। आईआईटी पटना के चेयरमैन और आईआईटी हैदराबाद में यह सबजेक्ट पढ़ाने वाले एचसीएल के फाउंडर अजय चौधरी ने कहा, 'अगर बिजनेसमैन आंत्रप्रेन्योरशिप के बारे में पढ़ाएंगे तो उससे यंग लोगों को बिजनेस शुरू करने में मदद मिलेगी।' उन्होंने कहा कि इससे फेल होने वाली स्टार्टअप की संख्या घट सकती है। वहीं आईआईटी खड़गपुर में राजेंद्र मिश्रा स्कूल ऑफ इंजीनियरिंग आंत्रप्रेन्योरशिप के हेड पी पी दास ने कहा कि हम अगले साल से इंजीनियरिंग आंत्रप्रेन्योरशिप में माइक्रो या थिन स्पेशियलाइजेशन कोर्स शुरू करने की सोच रहे हैं।

Times of India ND 23/09/2014 P-10

IITs make entry easier, Std XII cut-off now 75%

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Chennai: The Indian Institutes of Technology have made the basic criterion for admission easier and clearer by announcing that the cut-off for students who clear the IIT-JEE (Advanced) will be 75% in the Class 12 board examinations or a top 20 percentile, whichever is lower.

Students have so far had to chase an undisclosed target to be within the top 20 percentile to be considered for admission to the IITs.

The IIT council, at its 48th meeting in Chennai on Monday, ratified the decisions. The meeting of the council, the apex body that coordinates the functioning of all 16 IITs, was chaired by Union human resource development minister Smriti Irani.

Now, lectures in Bengali at IIT-B

At IIT-Bombay, computer program lectures are being imparted in Bengali, which is the third vernacular after Hindi and Marathi for special instruction, albeit informal, at the institute. The lectures are for first-year BTech students who are mainly from the interiors of Bengal and lack proficiency in English. **TNN**

“The council deliberated at length before deciding that in addition to the 20 percentile condition, it would offer another provision — that candidates in the general, OBC-NCL (non-creamy layer) categories should score 75% in the Class 12 exam and SC/STs and persons with disability should score

India-specific rankings on cards

The long-standing concern of India's no-show at world university rankings may finally see a solution. The HRD ministry along with IITs will frame the much sought after ranking system exclusively for Indian institutions. This was announced at the 48th meeting of the council of IITs in Chennai on Monday. **TNN**

70%,” HRD ministry secretary Ashok Thakur said.

The decision was welcomed by students and teachers. FIITJEE Tamil Nadu director Ankur Jain said, “Students will now face less pressure as they have a clear target.” But some students said 75% was too low to be the IIT cutoff.

Entry norms for IITs relaxed

Those who have scored 75 % in Class XII will also be eligible

R. Sujatha

CHENNAI: The Ministry of Human Resource Development has ratified new criteria for admission to the Indian Institute of Technologies (IITs), paving the way for participation of more students in counselling from next year.

Until now, students in the top 20 percentile of Class XII marks alone were eligible for entry into IITs. As a result, those who scored well in the Joint Entrance Examination, but failed to make it to the top 20 percentile were denied admission. Under the new rules, those who have scored 75 per cent marks in Class XII will also be eligible.

"After a lengthy deliberation, the IIT Council has decided that in addition to the 20 percentile condition, you will also have the marks secured formula," said MHRD



At a student-run centre at IIT-M.

PHOTO: M. SRINATH

Secretary Ashok Thakur, who attended the 48th meeting of the Council of IITs here on Monday.

Candidates in the General/Other Backward Class/Non Creamy Layer category who have secured 75 per cent and students under the SC/ST/disabled category with 70 per cent score will benefit from the change. Last year 200 students with top scores could not make it to the premier institutions.

New ranking system for varsities

R.Sujatha

CHENNAI: The directors of IIT-Madras and IIT-Kanpur are preparing a framework for a new ranking system for universities in the country.

The rough framework for the India-centric ranking system, which will have a set of parameters, will be ready by December, the Union HRD Secretary Ashok Thakur said.

The IITs are currently working with Central universities.

"The international ranking system is not applicable to India as it does not consider the initiatives for people with diverse social background. Once the framework is ready, the parameters for all funded institutions will be fixed," Mr. Thakur said.

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IIT tweaks JEE norms to also allow those with 75% in Class XII

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE

NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 22

PROVIDING relief to those seeking admission to the Indian Institutes of Technology, the IIT Council has decided to change eligibility norms to include students who secure 75 per cent marks and above in their Class 12 board exams. Currently, only those who are in the top-20 percentile are eligible for admission, provided they clear the JEE Main and JEE Advanced exams.

“In addition to the top-20 percentile condition, we decided to include the marks secured in the board exams,” confirmed HRD Secretary Ashok Thakur. The decision was taken at the IIT Council meeting held in Chennai on Monday, chaired by HRD Minister Smriti Irani.

As per the new rule, OBC and general category candidates should either be in the top-20 percentile or secure at least 75 per cent marks — whichever is lower — in their Class 12 board exams. Those belonging to SC, ST and disabled sections should secure at least 70 per cent marks.

Meanwhile, a committee under the chairmanship of Secretary, Higher Education, has been set up to resolve the stand-off with the UGC over the IITs' course structure. The heads of the IITs in Chennai and Kanpur have also been given the responsibility of preparing a framework for a new India-centric ranking system for institutions of higher learning.

आईआईटी में 20 पर्सेंटाइल से राहत

नई दिल्ली | विशेष संवाददाता

भारतीय प्रौद्योगिकी संस्थानों (आईआईटी) में प्रवेश पाने के इच्छुक छात्रों के लिए एक राहत भरी खबर है। अगले सत्र से प्रवेश के नियमों में थोड़ा बदलाव किया जा रहा है। बोर्ड परीक्षा में शीर्ष 20 पर्सेंटाइल में स्थान नहीं मिल पाने के कारण छात्र अब आईआईटी में प्रवेश पाने से वंचित नहीं होंगे। बशर्ते उन्होंने बोर्ड परीक्षा में 75 फीसदी अंक हासिल किए हों।

आईआईटी काउंसिल की सोमवार को चेन्नई में हुई बैठक में नए नियमों को मंजूरी दी गई। पिछले तीन सालों में करीब दो सौ छात्र ऐसे हैं, जो एडवांस टेस्ट में तो सफल रहे लेकिन अपने बोर्ड के शीर्ष 20 पर्सेंटाइल में स्थान नहीं पा सके। इसके चलते वे आईआईटी में प्रवेश से वंचित रह गए। उच्च शिक्षा सचिव अशोक ठाकुर ने बताया कि इसमें एक नया प्रावधान यह जोड़ा गया कि या तो छात्र शीर्ष 20 पर्सेंटाइल में आए या फिर बोर्ड परीक्षा में 75 फीसदी अंक हासिल करें। हालांकि, अनुसूचित जाति एवं अनुसूचित जनजाति के उम्मीदवारों के लिए अर्हता 70 फीसदी अंकों की होगी।

इन दोनों में से किसी एक मापदंड को पूरा करने और एडवांस टेस्ट में सफल रहने पर छात्र-छात्राएं आईआईटी में प्रवेश पा सकेंगे। देश में 16 आईआईटी

मौजूदा नियम क्या

आईआईटी दाखिले के लिए छात्रों को दो शर्तें पूरी करनी होती हैं

1. बोर्ड परीक्षा में वे शीर्ष 20 पर्सेंटाइल में स्थान पाएं
2. जेईई एडवांस टेस्ट भी पास करें

03 सालों से लागू है यह व्यवस्था



आईआईटी काउंसिल ने यह कदम सही दिशा में उठाया है। लेकिन अंक

सीमा को 75 प्रतिशत की बजाय 60 प्रतिशत रखा जाता तो दूरदराज और ग्रामीण परिवेश के छात्रों को फायदा होता। क्योंकि पहले भी आईआईटी में प्रवेश के लिए न्यूनतम सीमा 60 प्रतिशत थी।

आनंद कुमार, संस्थापक, सुपर-30

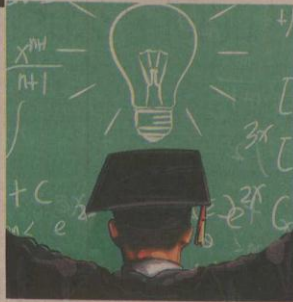
संस्थान हैं जिनमें करीब 11 हजार बीटेक सीटें हैं।

इस फैसले से खासतौर पर सीबीएसई के छात्रों को फायदा होगा क्योंकि सीबीएसई में पर्सेंटाइल बेहद ऊंची रहती है। कई बार 80 प्रतिशत अंक हासिल करने वाले भी शीर्ष 20 पर्सेंटाइल में स्थान नहीं हासिल कर पाते हैं।

गोवा IIT में अमेरिकी मदद

विदेशी मदद से पांच नए आईआईटी खोलेगी सरकार

देश में अभी 13 आईआईटी हैं। इनमें आठ 2008 से 2011 के बीच खुले हैं। इनकी स्थापना कांग्रेस की अगुवाई वाली यूपीए सरकार के दौरान मौजूद आईआईटी संस्थानों की निगरानी में हुई



जम्मू-कश्मीर, छत्तीसगढ़, आंध्र और केरल में खोले जाने वाले इंस्टीट्यूट्स के लिए पार्टनर देशों की पहचान भी जल्द की जाएगी

त्रिजिह्वा चोपड़ा | नई दिल्ली

एनडीए सरकार विदेशी की मदद से पांच नए आईआईटी खोलने की तैयारी में है। इनके बारे में इस फाइनेंशियल ईयर के बजट में ऐलान किया गया था। कांग्रेस पार्टी ने 1950 और 60 के दशक में प्रधानमंत्री जवाहर लाल नेहरू की अगुवाई में इतनी तरह इन संस्थानों की स्थापना की थी। मामले से याकि एक अधिकारी ने बताया कि गोवा में शुरू होने वाला आईआईटी अमेरिका के नामी-गिरामी संस्थानों के साथ मिलकर खोला जाएगा। इसके लिए समझौते पर दस्तखत के लिए एचआर मिनिस्टर स्मृति ईरानी भी मोदी

के साथ अमेरिकी दौरे पर जाएंगे। अधिकारी ने नाम जाहिर नहीं किए जाने की शर्त पर बताया कि जम्मू-कश्मीर, छत्तीसगढ़, आंध्र प्रदेश और केरल में खोले जाने वाले प्रोमियर इंजीनियरिंग इंस्टीट्यूट्स के लिए पार्टनर देशों की पहचान भी जल्द की जाएगी। 50 और 60 के दशक में मुंबई (तब बंबई), चेन्नई (तब मद्रास), कानपुर और दिल्ली में आईआईटी की स्थापना सोवियत संघ, पश्चिमी जर्मनी, अमेरिका और ब्रिटेन के सहयोग से हुई थी। मिसाल के लिए आईआईटी कानपुर को मैसचुसेट्स इंस्टीट्यूट ऑफ टेक्नोलॉजी, प्रिंस्टन यूनिवर्सिटी और यूनिवर्सिटी ऑफ कैलिफोर्निया समेत 9 बड़े अमेरिकी संस्थानों के कंसोशियम से टेक्निकल सहयोग मिला था।

अधिकारियों के मुताबिक, भारत और अमेरिकी की तरफ से संयुक्त घोषणा पत्र पर दस्तखत होने के बाद ही अमेरिकी संस्थानों का कंसोशियम गोवा में प्रस्तावित आईआईटी के लिए मदद मुहैया करा पाएगा। अधिकारी ने बताया, 'कितने और कौन-कौन से संस्थान किस हद तक आईआईटी

गोवा को मदद करेंगे, इस बारे में फैसला ज्वार्टेड वर्किंग ग्रुप करेगा। भारत और अमेरिका के संयुक्त घोषणा पत्र पर हस्ताक्षर करने के बाद ज्वार्टेड ग्रुप बनाया जाएगा।'

देश में अभी 13 आईआईटी हैं। इनमें आठ 2008 से 2011 के बीच खुले हैं। इनकी स्थापना यूपीए सरकार के दौरान मौजूद आईआईटी संस्थानों की निगरानी में हुई। ज्यादातर नए आईआईटी अस्थायी कैम्पस में चल रहे हैं और इनको फेकल्टी की दिक्कत से जूझना पड़ रहा है। इन मसलों के बावजूद मोदी सरकार ने 2014-15 के अपने पहले बजट में 5 नए आईआईटी खोलने का ऐलान किया है। फाइनेंस मिनिस्टर ने इसके लिए शुरुआत में 500 करोड़ रुपये मुहैया कराए हैं। नए आईआईटी में इंफ्रास्ट्रक्चर की दिक्कत के मोटेतक प्रस्तावित संस्थानों की संभावित समस्याओं पर एचआरडी मिनिस्टर स्मृति ईरानी ने इस महीने के शुरू में इकनामिक टाइम्स से कहा था कि यह पिछली गलतियों के लिए जिम्मेदारी तय करने के बजाय प्रविश्य की तैयारी करने आई है।

At IIT-Madras, innovation is a part of learning

Platform set up by alumni helps budding entrepreneurs start up

MAHIMA A JAIN

Chennai, September 22

In 2007, when a bunch of students from IIT-Madras started the Centre for Innovation funded by the alumni of the 1981 batch, little did they know that it would grow as a platform for budding entrepreneurs and a place for people with ideas.

With auto, aero, astronomy, compvision, electronics, design and animation, ibot (robotics), webops (coding) and biotech clubs, CFI has around 300 student-members who walk in with their ideas and passion to see those ideas through.

Rohit Reddy, IIT alumni and founder and CEO, Desto, said, "I was with CFI when it started. I had an ambition to build things that fly. So we

built an ornithopter. I am not from an aero background, but we did it."

This zeal reverberates at the CFI Open House, an exhibition of CFI projects, held last weekend at the IIT-M Campus.

Anumant Sarma, a student coordinator, said, "Each club has around three projects in various stages of completion here. Some NGOs or companies give their problem statements and we work on those too, and some are student projects."

CFI gets a majority of its funds from the alumni. "They have extended support in technology and help them take their work elsewhere," Reddy said.

Industry clients include Al-

strut India, Kwik Soft Innovation, Paperman Pvt Ltd, Chennai Corporation, and NGO Vidya Sagar.

Some of the exhibits included hovercrafts and quadrotors, garbage segregation and compressing machines in prototype stage, a Vein Finder that makes detecting veins easier, various projects for a central building management system, alert system for hearing impaired, various devices and software to help autistic children and children with cerebral palsy (under the Team Sahaay that makes products to assist specially-abled people), projection mapping, scene classification, robots that carry loads in factories, and many more.

One exhibit includes parts of Raftaar, the formula racing car built from scratch by IIT-M students. The car itself is in transit from Germany,



A student operates a quadrotor at the Centre For Innovation Open House, at IIT-Madras. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

having just been a part of a competition organised by the Formula Student Association of Engineers. This is the team's third year at FSAE. For most students at CFI, nothing is impossible.

As one alumni says, CFI was like "the Wild West. We

had freedom to pursue something we were passionate about. A significant number of students from my batch are entrepreneurs."

Mahesh Pancagnul, Curricular Advisor at IIT-M, said, "The fraction of CFI alumni who have start-ups is

significantly higher than other alumni. CFI teaches them to be on their own with minimal mentorship."

Reddy calls CFI a community. "It gives you a place, time, funding and guidance. And it teaches you to learn and fail and grow. As entrepreneurs it is all about facing the unknown. And CFI gives you that opportunity. It works on a non-incentivised organic model. Once you are done you feel like giving it back. You want to enable other students to have the same experience."

This feeling of belonging to a larger community has assured that CFI will continue to be aided by those that have been helped by it. After all, what goes around comes around. And with several alumni taking a keen interest in CFI projects, it can be assured that many more ideas will see the light of day.



■ It has been observed that civil engineering tops the list of choices as far as women aspirants are concerned. IMAGESBAZAAR

Demand for engineers on the rise

Proyashi Barua

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The government's move to add more IITs to incorporate digital learning and focus on improving vocational training skills will go a long way in improving the engineering landscape.

Despite the challenges, the engineering sector in India is entering an interesting phase. Elaborating on current and upcoming trends, Shekhar Sanyal, director and country head IET (The Institution of Engineering and Technology) says, "The demand for core engineers - mechanical, electrical and civil is on the rise. After the dot com bubble burst in 2000, India became the most attractive destination for internet and IT services. India was rich in terms of quantity and quality of brainpower and also a cheaper destination for multinational companies seeking the kind of talent. This steered a new trend among aspiring engineering students to opt for the information technology and computer science special-

AFTER THE DOT COM BUBBLE BURST IN 2000, INDIA BECAME THE MOST ATTRACTIVE DESTINATION FOR INTERNET AND IT SERVICES.

SHEKHAR SANYAL, director and country head, institution of engineering and technology

ties, resulting in rapid increase in the number of engineering colleges across India offering IT engineering education."

Sanyal says that during the IET's recent dialogue with select affiliates and partner colleges across India, it has been observed that there has been a noticeable shift of interest among aspiring engineers towards core engineering courses like civil, electronics/electrical and mechanical engineering. "Infact, civil engineering tops the list of choices as far as women aspirants are concerned," he adds.

Disqualify 7 'C' category deemed univs: UGC panel

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New Delhi: The UGC committee that reviewed 41 'C' category deemed universities has recommended that seven of them should be disqualified. As reported by **TOI** last week, the committee has further classified 41 'C' category deemed universities into A, B and C sub-categories. Seven of them are in the 'C' sub-category and the rest 34 are spread out in 'A' and 'B' sub-categories.

On Monday, the UGC's full commission accepted the committee's report. However, the report was not shown to UGC members and vice-chairperson H Devaraj read out the operative portion, leading to protest by a member. He asked how could the UGC claim that the report had been accepted when all the members had not even seen it. He also wanted to know the names of seven disqualified deemed universities but it was not shared.

Now, the UGC will send the report to the HRD ministry which, in turn, will inform the Supreme Court. The committee was set up under the orders of the SC. The apex court had asked it to examine three earlier reports on deemed universities. The Tandon Committee in 2009 had categorised them into three, and 41 were found unfit to continue as deemed universities.

But the larger problem for the UGC and its new report awaits on Tuesday when the SC will hear the regulator on a plea made by some 'C' category universities. These institutions have pointed out that all review panels on deemed universities from 2009 onwards have given reports on the basis of presentations and without any physical verification. They cited UGC's 2010 regulation that mandates external review of deemed universities every five years.

The meeting also cleared many proposals that have been announced by HRD minister Smriti Z Irani. UGC also informed the members that it will start including transgenders as 'third gender' under various scholarship/fellowship schemes.

Engineering your way to success

SECTOR WATCH The recent NASSCOM skills survey shows that only 27% of engineering graduates in India are employable. Industry experts suggest ways to address this challenge

Proyashi Barua

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India has always been globally acknowledged as a veritable powerhouse of engineering talent. "After all, some of the best engineers in the world are Indians," says Shekhar Sanyal, director and country head IET (The Institution of Engineering and Technology). Around 1.2 million engineers graduate every year in India.

However, the engineering sector is losing its edge. The NASSCOM (The National Association of Software and Services Companies) skills survey shows that only 27% of engineering graduates are employable. Endorsing this fact, Sanyal adds, "According to the National Council of Applied Economic Research (NCAER), there will be a shortfall of about 2.5 million employable engineers by 2020."

So what exactly is the problem with sector? "Most of our engineering colleges have not embraced the concept of application-based learning,"

ACCORDING TO THE NATIONAL COUNCIL OF APPLIED ECONOMIC RESEARCH, THERE WILL BE A SHORTFALL OF APPROXIMATELY 2.5 MILLION EMPLOYABLE ENGINEERS BY 2020

says Sanyal. In addition to this, many colleges do not secure practical training by way of apprentice/internship opportunities. "This issue can be substantially resolved by making it mandatory for various organisations/government departments to employ apprentice/trainees. The academic curriculum should be tailor made to correspond to the specific requirements of the industries. Periodic reviews also are a must," says RN Arora, vice president and branch head, REPL, a real estate consultancy firm that employs engineers.

Sharing his views on the subject of upgrading the engineering pool, Sanyal says, "Our engineers should be able to communicate, collaborate and work efficiently with peers from around the world. For this, in addition to sound theoretical foundation, communication skills and confidence are important. This is where professional bodies like the IET can play a significant role by organising national and international competitions. These competitions are much-needed platform for engineers to put their knowledge into practice in a multidisciplinary and real-life context. For instance, the IET India Scholarship Awards test students on their potential to come up with viable technological solutions in relation to civic problems. The IET also works with academia and industry to upskill the engineering workforce and help them gain

JOB ROLES AND SKILL SETS REQUIRED FOR ENGINEERS



JOB PROFILES

Some broad job profiles for which mechanical, electrical and civil engineers are recruited by the industry for various roles and positions include research and development, manufacturing — supply chain management, wind projects management — operation excellence, structural planning, quality control and planning and construction management.

international accreditation and professional qualifications."

Vidur Gupta, director, Spectrum Talent Management, adds, "Most of the leading technical institutions around the world have relevant curriculum that covers practical aspects like man management, interdisciplinary teamwork, organisational behaviour, etc. Indian institutions, however, focus mostly on

WHAT DO EMPLOYERS LOOK FOR?

So what are some of the basic things that employers look for while interviewing engineers? "There are many aspects that matter when we look for a good candidate. A sound academic record and computer proficiency are key considerations. Apart from innovation and creativity, a candidate is also assessed in terms of his/her concern for quality and safety. Apart from

the core subject, leaving less room for such important aspects of the professional world that a future engineer would be expected to deal with/exposed to. Our pedagogy and curricula need to incorporate all these subjects."

The silver lining comes by way of the training and development initiatives that many organisations are undertaking for the engineers that they hire

these, cost and speed (execution) consciousness, execution/result orientation, customer orientation, communication skills, leadership qualities, growth potential and team personality are some other qualities we look for in potential employees," says Saurabh Kholkute, vice president, corporate human resources, Suzlon Energy Ltd.

in their workforce. "We conduct various induction and development programmes for engineers that focus on campus to corporate conversion training as well as technical and behavioural training. We also train our engineers on integrated management systems and corporate governance," says Saurabh Kholkute, vice president, corporate human resources, Suzlon Energy Ltd.

REMUNERATION

Regarding the average remuneration that engineers can command at various organisational levels, Rajiv Burman, managing partner, Lighthouse Partners says that approximate CTC at junior management level ranges between ₹3 lakh and ₹6 lakh and at the middle management it is ₹10 lakh to ₹15 lakh. Senior engineers can command between ₹25 lakh to ₹30 lakh.

Amit Das, president and CHRO, Reliance Communications Ltd, adds, "We have a Graduate Engineer Trainee (GET) programme through which we hire fresh graduate engineers from campus for our various engineering requirements across verticals in our IT team like development, customer operations, SAP, mail mobility, business delivery and solution architecture, etc."

IISc chemistry among 100 best in world; computer science 150

<http://www.deccanherald.com/content/432286/iisc-chemistry-among-100-world.html>

The Indian Institute of Science (IISc) is the only institution in the entire country to make it to the top 500 in the 2014 Academic Ranking of World Universities (ARWU) undertaken by the Centre for World-Class Universities at Shanghai Jiao Tong University.

Academics is considered a separate domain for rankings, which have been undertaken since 2003. IISc is ranked between 301 and 400 in the world for work in academics. Harvard University, the USA, has been number one for 12 years running and this year, too, it has maintained that position.

The top 10 institutions, apart from Harvard, are Stanford, MIT, Berkeley, Cambridge, Princeton, Caltech, Columbia, Chicago and Oxford. As far as the English language is concerned, IISc has better ranking between 101 and 150, in science performance, IISc is between 151 and 200 ranks. It is particularly in chemistry that IISc has done best, ranked 51-75.

Chemistry has received very high attention at the institute, with very senior scientists like C N R Rao, P Balaram, D D Sarma and Goverdhan Mehta working in the field for several decades. The average experience of senior scientists in chemistry is around 40-50 years.

In computer science, which is also very strong at IISc, it has been placed in the 101-150 rank category. So, subject-wise, IISc is on a fairly good wicket, but clearly a lot more work needs to be put in to be part of the Top 10.

ARWU considers universities that have Nobel laureates, field medalists, highly cited researchers, or papers published in magazines 'Nature' or 'Science'. Part of the criterion is also a significant amount of papers indexed by Science Citation Index-Expanded and Social Science Citation Index. Overall, more than 1,200 universities are ranked and the best 500 are selected.

IISc has not been short of funds, especially in the last few years. IISc's former director P Balaram had been pointing out that funds are not a problem and what is needed is work. Even if IISc doesn't make products, it is doing a great deal for academics by nurturing students to be good faculty.

Training human resource in academics is a major goal that IISc has set for itself. IISc directors and professors repeatedly point to the number of institutions that came out of IISc in the 1940s, 1950s and 1960s - space and Isro, NAL, HAL, DRDO, TIFR and DAE.

IISc, professors say, generates the best possible academicians in the country who help increase the number of academics. Another great contribution is training in theory and practicals of engineering, making it a unique institution with both basic sciences and engineering.

Call to include private varsities in all-India ranking

R. Sujatha

CHENNAI: The draft ranking system for universities in the country is being finalized by IIT Madras and IIT Kanpur.

Speaking at the Council of the IITs here on Monday, MHRD Secretary, Ashok Thakur said, "The international ranking system is not applicable to India as it does not consider the initiatives for people with diverse social background. Once the framework is ready, the parameters for all funded institutions will be fixed."

Once the system is in place, it will be applicable to all institutions funded by the University Grants Commission and the All India Institute of Technical Education, Mr. Thakur said.

S. Vaidhyasubramaniam, dean - planning and development, SASTRA University, felt as the JEE (Main) achieved the intended purpose for the IITs, the JEE-Advanced should be dispensed with.

"Since many private technical universities and colleges were "doing better work than some Centrally funded technical institutes" they

should also be included in the ranking system, he said. The ministry must mandate that all deemed universities should also adopt the JEE-Main for their admission to avoid multiplicity of entrance exams and instead consider national testing facility, he said.

The Ministry of Human Resources Development has ratified new criteria for admission to the Indian Institute of Technologies (IITs), paving the way for participation of more students in counselling from next year.

Candidates in the General/Other Backward Class/Non Creamy Layer category who have secured 75 per cent and students under the SC/ST/disabled category with 70 per cent score will benefit from the change. Last year 200 students with top scores could not make it to the premier institutions.

Alumni Centre

The IIT alumni have decided to set up a centre in Bangalore in an effort to bring the industry and academia together. The initiative was mooted by IIT-Bombay.

Economic Times ND 23/09/2014 P-1

IITS TO TEACH ENTREPRENEURSHIP

Get Ready for more Flipkarts and Snapdeals

Changing The Game

IITs Integrating Entrepreneurship in Curriculum



IIT-Kharagpur

Plans to start minor course next year

Currently offers engg entrepreneurship

IIT-Patna

Working towards introducing a minor in entrepreneurship

IIT-Hyderabad

Plans to launch an elective next year

Offers subject as a minor for BTech students since 2012

IIT-Mandi

It has already introduced entrepreneurship as an elective

IIT-Gandhinagar

Offering an elective and minor in entrepreneurship

IIT-Mandi

Offering an elective in entrepreneurship from this semester

Some institutes plan to launch minor and elective courses from next year

Prachi Verma & Anumeha Chaturvedi

New Delhi: IITs have always produced a steady stream of entrepreneurs, including those behind celebrated companies such as Flipkart and Snapdeal. Many IITs also have thriving incubation cells that seek to spawn such entrepreneurs. IIT-Madras is even raising a start-

up fund. Now, finally, IITs are gearing up to teach entrepreneurship in the classroom.

IITs in Delhi, Kharagpur and Hyderabad are planning to bring entrepreneurship at the forefront of their BTech curriculum, and plan to launch minor as well as elective courses on the subject from next year. Other IITs in Madras, Mumbai, Gandhinagar, Kanpur, Patna and Mandi have just taken baby steps to include entrepreneurship in their curriculum.

These steps could further whip up a culture of entrepreneurship at the IITs and in the country, entrepreneurs and investors say.

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IITs Ease Admission Rules >> 12

Full-time Degree also an Option

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"This will benefit students who are not born into a business family, but yet aspire to run a company," Sasha Mirchandani, managing partner and founder of Kae Capital and founder of Mumbai Angels, a network of investors, said. "If you have faculty members teaching entrepreneurship, students would be more willing to learn about start-ups and businesses," he added. IIT-Delhi recently introduced courses on entrepreneurship. These could evolve into a minor, PV Madhusudan Rao of the mechanical engineering department of IIT-Delhi, said. A minor is a pre-defined course in a focus area whereas an elective is an optional departmental or open-category course.

IIT-Patna is also thinking about launching a minor in entrepreneurship. "With a subject like entrepreneurship being taught by actual entrepreneurs, it will help, support and guide young entrepreneurial ventures in the right direction," said Ajai Chowdhry, founder of HCL, who also teaches the subject at IIT-Hyderabad and is chairman at IIT-Patna.

IIT-Kharagpur is considering a micro or thin specialisation in engineering entrepreneurship for its BTech students from next year, said PP Das, head of Rajendra Mishra School of Engineering Entrepreneurship at IIT-Kharagpur.

IIT-Madras is raising a fund for start-ups. "We're tapping into our alumni network to handpick mentors who could guide the student entrepreneurs," said Ashwin Mahalingam, assistant professor, department of civil engineering, IIT-Madras.

IITs may even consider offering full-time degree and diploma programs on entrepreneurship, Rohin Kapoor, senior manager at Deloitte said. Many engineering institutes abroad already offer formal courses like Masters in Entrepreneurship etc.

THE 100 PERCENTILERS' CLUB

Cats Among IIM Flock Chase Big Dreams

The High Fliers

WHERE CAT 2011 TOPPERS ARE NOW

AJINKYA DESHMUKH



DGM, Ace Creative Learning

SHASHANK PRABHU

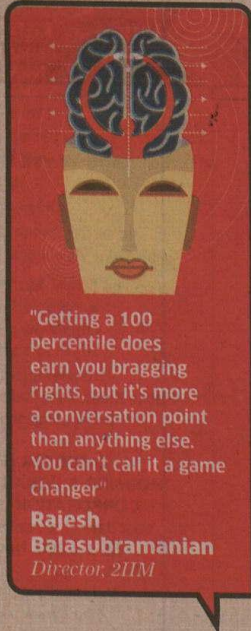


Assistant manager, Marketing, ITC

VISHAL KEDIA



Senior associate, Boston Consulting Group



"Getting a 100 percentile does earn you bragging rights, but it's more a conversation point than anything else. You can't call it a game changer"

Rajesh Balasubramanian
Director, 2IIM

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Mumbai: Topping the CAT (Common Admission Test) is no small feat – after all, the race for the prestigious Indian Institutes of Management (IIMs) is run by some of India's best and brightest. Which is why every one of the thousands of MBA aspirants that sit for the exam each year, dreams of making it to the 100 percentilers' club – the honour reserved for the top scorers alone.

But after coming up trumps in an examination as competitive as this, where do these 100 percentilers go? As CAT registrations for 2014 get set to enter the eighth week, ET tracks down a bunch of the toppers from CAT 2011, to find out where they are and what they are doing.

Of the nine students who bagged a 100 percentile in CAT 2011, ET managed to zero in on five: Vishal Kedia, Sri Ram Prasad Pemmasani, Shashank Prabhu, Ajinkya Deshmukh and Rajesh Balasubramanian. Three of them have opted for corporate careers; Deshmukh is heading a vertical at an education startup while Balasubramanian trains students to crack CAT.

First, the outliers. Ajinkya Deshmukh, deputy general manager at Ace Creative Learning, who completed his MBA from IIM Bangalore this year after his CAT coup, took a call to not join a high-paying MNC and work in the field of education instead. In a quasi-entrepreneurial role, he has full responsibility for the social business division at the Bangalore-based startup which offers training and guidance to students for various entrance examinations.

This division aims at promoting quality education among deserving children from underprivileged backgrounds.

"Having had prior experience in a multinational firm before joining an MBA, I always felt the need to work at a place which offers me plenty of scope for shouldering responsibility and decision-making. I think once that was clear, joining a startup was the obvious choice," says the IIT Madras grad.

Then there's Shashank Prabhu, who despite a top score, decided to continue in Faculty of Management Studies (FMS), where he was pursuing an MBA at the time. "I had a bent towards sales and marketing, the opportunities for which are similar across all the top campuses. Also, the fact that it would have taken an extra year and a few lakhs more made me stick to FMS, instead of appearing at any of the interviews/GDs at the IIMs," says Prabhu,

Being part of the club has given toppers confidence to face interviews or pursue a career of their choice

who's also a doctor by qualification. At present, he is working with ITC handling sales and distribution for their personal care products portfolio and looking forward to getting into more of a strategy-based role in the next few years.

For both Prabhu and Deshmukh, the 100 percentile was primarily about the confidence boost it provided; whether it was in facing interviews or in pursuing a career of their choice. For Vishal Kedia, a senior associate with the Boston Consulting Group, on the other hand, the biggest takeaway from CAT

was expectations management.

"People start expecting a lot from you post a thing like this. You have to learn to manage expectations and prioritise," says Kedia, a chartered accountant. After his MBA from IIM Ahmedabad this year, he's recently joined BCG, handling his first case in the industrial goods sector.

Kedia's batchmate at IIM-A, Sri Ram Prasad Pemmasani, was another CAT 2011 topper. The 23-year-old signed up for an MBA after completing his electrical engineering from IIT Ropar. He was a student placement committee coordinator at IIM-A and has now landed a job at Nestle in the sales and marketing division.

Pemmasani prefers to play things down. "I think it definitely becomes a talking point" – he says of his 100 percentile – "but after that, it's the rest of the profile that matters. All other things remaining constant though, a topper would get a slight edge," he says.

Agrees Rajesh Balasubramanian, an IIT Madras and IIT Bangalore graduate, and director of 2IIM, an IIM alumni initiative that prepares CAT aspirants. He has secured a 100 percentile, not just in CAT 2011, but in CAT 2012 as well.

Balasubramanian creates all the content for the Chennai-based company that has around 300 students a year, and has recently launched an online version of CAT coaching.

"Getting a 100 percentile does earn you bragging rights, but it's more a conversation point than anything else. Most of these students go on to do pretty well in academics but it's not a huge advantage or anything when it comes to placements. You can't call it a game changer," says Balasubramanian.

All is mangal with Mangalyaan

ISRO performs crucial manoeuvre, successfully test-fires Main Liquid Engine

KESTUR VASUKI ■ BANGALORE

On its 300-day space Odyssey, Mars Orbiter Mission, Mangalyaan, on Monday successfully passed a crucial test ahead of Prime Minister Narendra Modi's visit to Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO)'s telemetry centre in Bangalore on Wednesday. According to ISRO scientists, Main Liquid Engine of Mangalyaan, which had been dormant for nearly 300 days,

IF THE MARS ORBIT INSERTION IS CARRIED OUT SUCCESSFULLY, INDIA WILL BECOME THE FIRST COUNTRY EVER TO SEND A SPACECRAFT TO THE RED PLANET IN ITS FIRST ATTEMPT. ONLY 21 OUT OF A TOTAL OF 51 MARS MISSIONS HAVE BEEN SUCCESSFUL, NONE OF THEM ON DEBUT



was successfully test-fired.

The space scientists also performed a crucial Trajectory Correction Manoeuvre (TCM), which was configured for verifying the performance of the Main Liquid Engine to determine the strategy for Mars

Orbit Insertion (MOI) on September 24.

According to ISRO Chairman K Radhakrishnan, the crucial tests were performed successfully and the Mangalyaan was in good health. "With Monday's critical manoeuvre

our confidence level has gone up since it proves that the spacecraft is in its pink of health," he said.

If the MOI is carried out successfully on September 24, India will become the first country ever to send spacecraft to the Red Planet in its first attempt. Only 21 out of a total of 51 mars missions have been successful, none of them on debut.

In a statement, the ISRO said it they would go ahead with the critical final orbit injection plan as Monday's test proved a success. "Test firing successful and we had a perfect burn for four seconds as programmed. The trajectory has been corrected. MOM will now go ahead with the nominal plan for Mars Orbit Insertion," it said. According to ISRO scien-

tists, the spacecraft reached the Martian gravitational sphere of influence, which has a radius of 5.8 lakh kilometres. After the entry into Mars' gravitational field, pyro valves were opened in the Orbiter. The propellant lines are enabled for orbit insertion, and create a path for the propellant, known as rocket fuel, to reach the main liquid engine.

They said that as the spacecraft entered the Mars' influence, its velocity has to be controlled so that it does not escape Mars' gravitational influence. The spacecraft is scheduled to start orbit insertion at 7:30 am IST on September 24 in the presence of the Prime Minister. The speed of the spacecraft will be reduced to a smooth transition into the Martian orbit. A source in the

ISRO told *The Pioneer* that Modi will sit with a group of space scientists at the ISRO's command centre on September 24 to witness the final workout on the spacecraft. According to scientists, ISRO aims to capture the space technology market ahead of China.

The ₹450-crore Mars Orbiter Mission, was launched from ISRO's spaceport at Sriharikota on November 5 last year. This has made India enter a league of select nation which have proved their prowess in conquering the Red Planet.

The Mangalyaan aims to study Mars' surface and mineral composition, and scan its atmosphere for methane, a chemical strongly tied to life on Earth.

Mint ND 23/09/2014 P-3

ON COURSE

Mars Orbiter's liquid engine burn successful, says Isro

BY NIKITA MEHTA
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NEW DELHI

The Indian Space Research Organisation (Isro) successfully test-fired the liquid rocket motor on the Mars Orbiter for the first time since December for four seconds, gearing up for Wednesday when the spacecraft will be inserted into a Martian orbit.

"We had a perfect burn for four seconds as programmed. The trajectory has been corrected," Isro announced on Monday. The test firing of the liquid rocket engine changed the spacecraft's velocity by 2.18m per second and corrected the rocket's trajectory to stay on course, Isro said later in a press release.

The orbiter on Monday entered within 580,000km from Mars in a hyperbolic trajectory after which the fourth trajectory correction manoeuvre took place and then the main liquid engine was test-fired for 3.968 seconds. The motor was last used in December when the spacecraft was set on trajectory to arrive at Mars.

Monday's development took place even as the US National Aeronautics and Space Administration's (Nasa) orbiter Maven (Mars Atmosphere and Volatile Evolution) was successfully inserted into the Martian orbit. Isro and Nasa's Jet Propulsion Centre were on a teleconference call to ensure there will be no interference to the other's mission and that the timings have been adjusted accordingly.

Isro's 1,340kg Mars Orbiter was launched aboard the Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle (PSLV-C25) on 5 November from the Satish Dhawan Space Centre in Sriharikota.

On 24 September, after the orbiter completes a 300-day journey from Earth, it will be inserted into a Mars orbit. A microprocessor-based control system of the spacecraft will act as its electronic brain during the communication gap from Earth, which on Monday stood around 12 minutes.

Just before reaching Mars's capturing orbit, forward rotation for the orbiter will begin at 6.56am, after which the 24-minute Mars orbit insertion

burn will start consuming propellant weighing 249.5kg.

During this phase, the rocket will be hidden from Earth's view when its speed will be reduced to 1.6km per second by firing the liquid motor on the spacecraft. The ground station support during the manoeuvre will be provided by the Indian Deep Space Network in Bangalore, and from the US, Spain and Australia, which will establish communication with the 2.2m dish antennae in the Orbiter, which will eventually send scientific data.

The Orbiter is carrying five scientific payloads weighing 15kg, which will observe the Martian surface, atmosphere and exosphere extending up to 80,000km for a detailed understanding of the evolution of the planet by observing its geologic and biogenic processes. The payloads consist of a camera, two spectrometers, a radiometer and a photometer.

The primary objective of the Mars Mission, however, is to prove India's technological capability to reach the Red Planet and carry out scientific observations.

Pioneer ND 23/09/2014 P-12

NASA's MAVEN enters Mars orbit

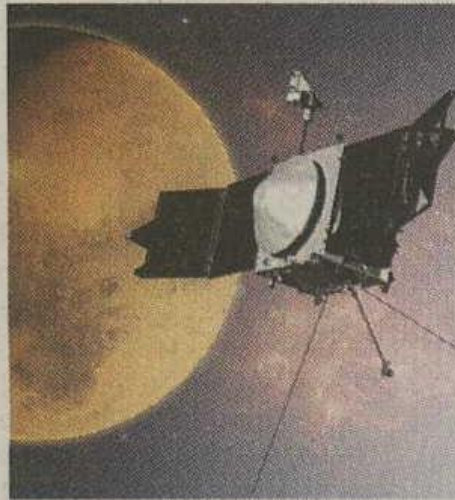
AFF ■ WASHINGTON

NASA's MAVEN spacecraft began orbiting Mars on a mission to study how the Red Planet's climate changed over time from warm and wet to cold and dry.

"Based on observed navigation data, congratulations. MAVEN is now in orbit," said Dave Folta of NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center.

The unmanned orbiter has traveled more than 10 months and 711 million kilometers to reach Mars on Sunday for a first-of-its kind study of the planet's upper atmosphere.

The data from the Mars



Atmosphere and Volatile Evolution (MAVEN) spacecraft aims to help scientists understand what happened to the water on Mars and the carbon dioxide in its atmosphere several billion years ago.

How Mars lost its atmosphere is one of science's biggest mysteries. The answers could shed light on the planet's potential to support life — even if that was just microbial life — long ago.

MAVEN's findings are also expected to help add to knowledge of how humans could survive on a future visit to the Red Planet, perhaps as early as 2030. "Mars is a cool place, but there is not much atmosphere," said John Clarke, of the MAVEN science team.

"It is very cold, it is well below zero. The atmosphere is about half a percent of what we are breathing," he added.

Times of India ND 23/09/2014 P-17

CO₂ emissions to reach 40bn-tonne high

China, US, EU And India Largest Emitters Accounting For 58% Of Greenhouse Gas

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London: British researchers have confirmed that carbon dioxide emissions, the main contributor to global warming, are set to rise in 2014 reaching a record high of 40 billion tonnes.

The 2.5% projected rise in burning fossil fuels was revealed by the Global Carbon Project which is co-led in the UK by researchers at the Tyndall Centre for Climate Change Research at the University of East Anglia and the College of Engineering, Mathematics and Physical Sciences at the University of Exeter.

The projected rise is therefore 65% above 1990 levels, the reference year for the Kyoto Protocol. China, USA, EU and India are the largest emitters accounting for 58% of emissions togeth-



GREEN MARCH: A combo picture of protest signs being carried during the 'People's Climate March' in New York on Sunday

er. China's emissions grew by 4.2% in 2013, USA's by 2.9% and India's by 5.1%. The EU has decreased its emissions by 1.8% though it continues to export a third of its emissions to China

and other producers through imported goods and services.

This latest annual update of the Global Carbon Budget shows that future CO₂ emissions cannot exceed 1,200 billion tonnes — for a likely 66% chance of keeping average global warming under 2°C (since pre-industrial times). At the current rate of CO₂ emissions, this 1,200 billion tonne CO₂ "quota" would be used up in around 30 years. This means that there is just one generation before the safeguards to a 2°C limit may be breached.

Corinne Le Quere, director of the Tyndall Centre, said, "The human influence on climate change is clear. We need substantial and sustained reductions in CO₂ emissions from burning fossil fuels if we are to limit global climate change. We are nowhere

near the commitments necessary to stay below 2°C of climate change, a level that will be already challenging to manage for most countries around the world, even for rich nations."

Lead author Pierre Friedlingstein from the University of Exeter said, "The time for a quiet evolution in our attitudes towards climate change is now over. Delaying action is not an option. We need to act together and act quickly if we are to stand a chance of avoiding climate change not long into the future, but within many of our own lifetimes. We have already used two-thirds of the total amount of carbon we can burn, in order to keep warming below the crucial 2°C level. If we carry on at the current rate we will reach our limit in as little as 30 years' time."

VC Firm IvyCap Raises ₹245 crore

Firm's strategy of backing IIT, IIM startups clicks with investors in funds, limited partners

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Mumbai: Venture capital firm IvyCap Ventures has raised ₹244.5 crore for its maiden fund that targets early-to-growth stage startups founded by graduates of select top colleges like IITs and IIMs.

The fund has completely been raised from domestic investors, with 20% anchor commitment coming from the alumni of IITs and IIMs globally, and the rest from institutional investors.

Vikram Gupta, founder and managing partner of IvyCap, said its strategy of backing companies founded or referred to by alumni of top colleges has clicked with investors in funds, or limited partners (LPs).

"If you just look at the data of the total IITians about 300,000, 20% of

them have been entrepreneurs once in their lifetime, and 500 IPOs have already happened," said Gupta. "One-third of the companies which have gone through venture-backed exits have been founded from IITs and IIMs."



IvyCap has already started soft marketing its second fund, which will raise around ₹900 crore including from overseas investors

six investments, including agri information services firm RML Pvt Ltd and women-focused online apparel retailer E-Shakti.

"We have already deployed 50% of the fund and expect to finish investments in the next eight months, across probably five more deals,"

IvyCap has already started soft marketing its second fund, which will raise around ₹900 crore including from overseas investors.

"In the last 2-3 years, fundraising has not been easy. But we are now getting calls from investors who want to invest in the fund, who we will accommodate in the next fund," said Gupta. IvyCap Ventures has already closed

said Gupta, who himself is an IIT Delhi graduate. The fund's advisory board include HCL Technologies co-founder Arjun Malhotra, Mastek co-founder Ashank Desai and Makemytrip founder Deep Kalra besides deans and professors of IITs.

IvyCap Ventures also counts GK Pillai, former union home & commerce secretary, as chairman of the fund.

"We have a strong mentoring programme wherein highly qualified, experienced professionals coming from diverse industries actively work with the investee companies in strategy, business development and operations," said Pillai.

Other venture capital investors say a significant portion of their own portfolio company founders belong to IITs and IIMs although they don't have a blanket rule round it. "There are a lot of benefits of picking alumni from top colleges due to their network and ability in terms of opening doors, hiring and fundraising," said Karthik Reddy, co-founder of Blume Ventures.

"While they do start with a distinct advantage, the end outcome is not always guaranteed."