# Newspaper Clips

## September 26, 2012

Amar Ujala, ND 26/09/2012

p-7

# एक साथ होगी जेईई मेंस और एडवांस की काउंसलिंग

कानपुर (ब्यूरो)। ज्वाइंट एंट्रेंस एग्जाम (जेईई) मेंस और एडवांस की ऑनलाइन काउंसलिंग एक साथ कराई जाएगी। इसका खाका तैयार कर लिया गया है। जुलाई-2013 के पहले हफ्ते में काउंसलिंग होनी है। इससे पहले ही देश के सभी 44 सेंट्रल, स्टेट बोर्ड के रिजल्ट आ जाएंगे। इनके मार्क्स और परसेंटाइल को देखकर ही एडमिशन प्रक्रिया पूरी की जाएगी।

जेईई मेंस, एडवांस की काउंसलिंग का कन्फ्यूजन दूर हो गया है। आईआईटी कानपुर के कार्यवाहक रजिस्ट्रार डा. आरके सचान ने बताया कि मेंस का एग्जाम 7 अप्रैल को होगा, जिसका रिजल्ट 7 मई तक आ जाएगा। फिर 2 जून को होने वाले एडवांस टेस्ट का रजिस्ट्रेशन शुरू होगा। इसमें मेंस के 1.50 लाख सफल स्टूडेंट हिस्सा ले सकेंगे और जून अंत तक इसका रिजल्ट आ जाएगा और काउंसलिंग कराई जाएगी। एडवांस टेस्ट के सफल स्टूडेंट की काउंसलिंग आईआईटी दिल्ली की देखरेख में होगी, जबकि मेंस की काउंसलिंग सीबीएसई कराएगा।

इसके अलावा ऑनलाइन फार्म भरने का फीस स्ट्रक्चर भी समान किया जा सकता है। उन्होंने बताया कि ओबीसी, एससी, एसटी, फिजिकली हैंडीकैप्ड स्टूडेंट के एडवांस टेस्ट में शामिल होने की योग्यता तय कर दी गई है। ऐसे स्टूडेंट्स को इंटरमीडिएट के एग्जाम में अपनी कैटिगरी के टॉप 20 परसेंटाइल की सूची में शामिल होना पड़ेगा।

- जुलाई-2013 के पहले हफ्ते में होगी काउंसलिंग

Times of India Chennai 25-09-2012 P-5

# A 'beautiful' chance for girls at IIT-M

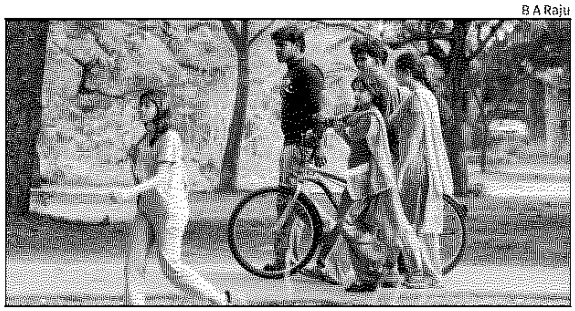
## Dean's Committee Approves Beauty Parlour For Women, 24-Hour Canteen

M Ramya | TNN

**Chennai:** The Indian Institute of Technology-Madras is gearing up to groom its girl students in more ways than one. A beauty parlour for women, part of a list of to-dos approved by the dean's committee recently to make the campus more student-friendly, is set to come up soon.

The parlour is to come up near Sharavati, one of the two women's hostels on campus, and will be part of a complex that will include a stationery store, a cycle-repair shop, a packaged food items shop and a clothes ironing centre.

B A Raju



SASHAYING IN STYLE

"Most of us head to salons at least once a month. This will make life very convenient for us," said Radhika Menon (name changed), a resident student on campus.

Others said this would help them avoid fixing up appointments that most beauty salons insist on. "We would also like to get the girly stuff done at our convenience. After all, a trip to a parlour is also about relaxing," said Shraddha Sagar, another resident.

A 24-hour canteen on the campus, a long-standing request, is set to come up soon. "Many of us study late into the night, particularly during quizzes (internal tests). Most times we are forced to go hungry as we can't find anything edible. A 24-hour canteen is most welcome," said second year BTech student Nikhil Sharma.

Some redundant facilities, such as the STD booth, will be removed, and the travel agency at the students' facilities centre replaced with a railway tatkal counter. A power laundry service will come up in two weeks. A free photocopying facility was set up earlier this month.

After a 'hunger strike' at the Himalaya mess last academic year against the poor quality food, students have helped draw up a new tender process and introduced a performance audit clause according to which the payment for the caterers would be reduced in case there was a consistent negative feedback from students.

"All these efforts are being made to ensure that students can concentrate on academics. They should be able to have fun, and at the back of our mind is also the fact that students should feel that they can trust the faculty and institute management," said a faculty member.

Millennium Post ND 26/09/2012 p-13

# 'Downturn exposes B-schools' quality deficit'

**NEW DELHI:** The allure of Indian B-schools, barring the top 25, is fading and the employability of management graduates is on a decline, says an expert.

Recruitment avenues for management graduates are on a decline, considering the fact that the economy is growing at the lowest pace in nine years, besides the financial sector is also witnessing sluggish growth rate.

Moreover there are serious questions being asked about the quality of some B-schools (barring the top 25) and their pass outs.

'The number of management schools and engineering colleges in India is somewhere around 10,000 - 12,000 and there are serious questions about the employability of the graduates coming out of some of those institutions (barring the top 25),' IIT Delhi, professor and head (retd) Department of Management Studies, Rajat K Baisya said on the sidelines of an event organised by Skill-Tree. In late nineties India's management education sector saw a boom period as the number of business schools multiplied in no time.

But this situation is starting to deflate as people are realising that expensive courses in these kind of schools would not guarantee them a well-paid job. In the last five years however, the number of MBA seats in India has grown almost four fold from 94,704 in 2006-07 to 3,52,571 in 2011-12 resulting in a five-year compounded annual growth rate of 30 per cent, but their employability rates have fallen. PTI

**WORK WORTH**

**In the last five years however, the number of MBA seats in India has grown almost four fold from 94,704 in 2006-07 to 3,52,571 in 2011-12 resulting in a five-year compounded annual growth rate of 30 per cent, but their employability rates have fallen**

Times Of India ND 26/09/2012

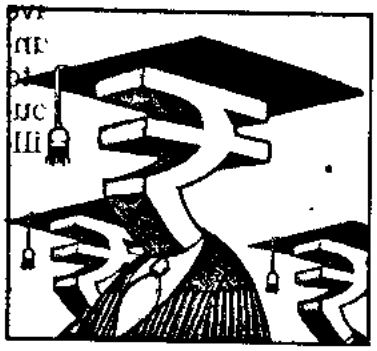
P-20

# Change The Game

## *Profit-making in higher education crucial to realising India's demographic dividend*

The final draft of the 12th five-year Plan has been reported to favour permitting higher education institutions to be run for profit. Even though the proposal appears to have run into opposition from the human resource development ministry, it will be a game-changer if implemented. There's no denying that higher education in the country leaves a lot to be desired. The not-for-profit model has not only failed to produce quality institutes of learning – as exemplified by the inability of a single Indian varsity to make it to the list of top 100 universities in global rankings – it has also proved unsuccessful in bridging the huge demand-supply gap in higher education.

Unlike the country's finite natural resources, India's human resource is a vast pool of untapped talent and economic energy. But realising this demographic dividend requires access to quality higher education and skill training. It is precisely to incentivise investments and scale up higher education that profit-making must be allowed. At present, private investors are hamstrung by a web of regulations that restricts them at each step – be it hiring quality teaching staff or raising funds through alternative routes other than tuition fees. Under such circumstances, the not-for-profit model for private institutions has morphed seamlessly into a crony-capitalist model, breeding an unholy nexus between politicians, bureaucrats and college proprietors. Those unwilling to go along with existing cronyism find it unviable to enter the higher education sector.



But if profit-making were to be allowed, it would lead to the sort of investment in higher education that's needed to meet demand. The need of the hour is to align social objectives with market incentives. While more colleges would mean better access to higher education, competition among colleges would check tuition fees and ensure quality. Secondly, taxes on profits that private colleges would make can fund a large-scale scholarship programme for students from economically and socially weaker sections of society.

Meanwhile, the government would do well to adopt the role of a light-handed regulator. In this regard, creating a credible accreditation system for higher education would be a step in the right direction. Education in India remains one of the last preserves of the licence-permit raj. Reforms in this area are critical to unleash long-term growth. Kapil Sibal had held out high hope of reform when he first took charge of the HRD ministry. Unless he can fulfil that hope, we won't be able to stop bright and talented young people from looking for the first opportunity to flee the country.

Times Of India ND 26/09/2012

P-20

# 'Each day with Mission Mars is thrilling in itself'

*Amitabha Ghosh is part of the Nasa team working on the Curiosity rover exploring Mars. Speaking with* ***Pratigyan Das****, Ghosh discussed Curiosity's journey, Nasa's spirit – and life on Mars:*

**■ Please describe Nasa's association with Mars?**

The journey started about 15 years ago. Curiosity is Nasa's fourth mission to discover unknown facts about the red planet – and find out if life can be possible there.

Nasa has progressively improved with each of its missions. We started off with robots the size of golf carts, coming down to the size of a suitcase in recent missions. Through Pathfinder in 1996, we learnt that Mars is composed of certain types of rock. In 2001, we saw water from the orbit. Now we're in a very interesting phase. Curiosity will try to find the possibility of organic molecules there. We assume that life on the Martian planet will be like that of earth – but it could be different.

**■ Why are we obsessed with possible life on Mars?**

Well, it's irrational to think that out of so many stars, only earth has life. Most stars are so far away that we cannot travel there in our lifetime. Mars gives us hope. There is a chance of life there – but unless we find verifying evidence, we can't say anything.

Q&A

**■ What are the challenges you face?**

Many – we're exploring a planet several million miles away. We knew nothing about it. Its atmospheric density, temperature, everything is completely different from ours. If something crashes, all your work goes haywire. There are huge

technical challenges, all the more difficult because Mars has been unforgiving. Russia's had bad luck, Europe's been trying hard. So, the very little success we get is very satisfying.

**■ What's your biggest thrill?**

I have the privilege to wake up every morning and see a part of Mars that nobody has ever seen. I believe that's the biggest thrill. Importantly, Mars has never ceased to fascinate and surprise us. Each day with Mission Mars is thrilling in itself.

**■ What do you think of India's planned mission to Mars?**

It's an appropriate progression, to go from the moon to Mars. It'll have tangible benefits for India. When you go for something like this, the world notices you. India's Chandrayaan programme was noticed at the global level. But India needs to be cautious, there probably will be reverses. At some point, there'll be a learning curve.

**■ How do Isro and Nasa compare?**

It's difficult to compare both. Their goals and budgets are different. Isro's also involved in educational programmes, telecom, etc. The operational models are completely different. Nasa's projects are undertaken by private concerns unlike Isro which is controlled by the government of India. That way, i'd say Nasa has an upper hand. But the biggest advantage for Nasa is its ability to get the best talent and retain it. Isro's success in the future will depend on doing this.

**■ How did you get to Nasa?**

Well, i'm from Kolkata and went to IIT, Kharagpur for my MSc in applied geology. I then came to the US for my PhD at the University of Tennessee – my topic was on Mars. My adviser was the chief of the advisory group at Nasa. Through him, i joined Nasa in 1997. One of the most fascinating things about Nasa is how the best talent, especially a younger lot from all the sub-disciplines, work under the same roof. There's a culture of energy and openness, dissent is always welcome – and people have a voice. This allows for innovation.

# A study in mediocrity

## To become truly global academic institutions, Indian universities must overcome the challenges related to faculty, scholarships, research and policy regulation, writes C Raj Kumar

The QS World University Rankings 2012 was released recently. While a number of Asian universities find a mention in the list of the top 200 universities of the world, unfortunately, not even a single Indian university features in the list.

The methodology adopted for this year's rankings has reinforced the importance of research and publications. The weightage of the six indicators used for these rankings are as follows: academic reputation, 40%; citation per faculty, 20%; faculty-student ratio, 20%; employer reputation, 10%; international faculty ratio, 5% and international student ratio, 5%. Academic reputation, which carries the maximum weightage, is based on the views of academics around the world with regard to the universities that produce best research in their field of expertise.

The universities in Asia are working hard and orienting themselves to be research-intensive. Hong Kong and Singapore, although small cities in Asia, have some of the world's leading universities. This year, Hong Kong has five universities and Singapore has two universities in the top 200 list. It is notable that Universiti Malaya in Malaysia is ranked 156 this year and it has been steadily improving over the years.

▪ Not prepared for a world of excellence

These rankings have demonstrated the fact that our higher education system needs to be overhauled for India to compete in the world of university education where academic innovation, intellectual freedom and research excellence are constantly promoted. The challenges related to higher education in India deserve an urgent and determined response. The state of our universities requires careful examination and critical reflection, as there has been a steady deterioration in the ability of our universities to serve as 'knowledge centres'. There are four major challenges that Indian universities must overcome to become truly global universities. These challenges are:

▪ Faculty: One of the most difficult challenges that the Indian university system faces is its inability to make outstanding graduates consider academia as their first career choice. Globalisation and the transformation of the Indian economy have created diverse career opportunities for Indian graduates, both within the country and abroad. We must make efforts to identify and inspire the best students across India to consider taking up academic positions in India and simultaneously encourage Indian students settled abroad to return and take up faculty positions. We must also realise that democratisation of knowledge creation means giving faculty members the freedom to work in India regardless of their nationality. To attract talent from around the world to India, we will have to re-examine our faculty recruitment policies, including visa regulations and compensation.

▪ Research: Time and again, we have recognised that the lack of rigorous research has been the bane of Indian universities. There is little or no incentive whatsoever for the faculty in most, if not all, Indian universities to undertake research. Most universities do not promote research because of an overemphasis on teaching in large classes, lack of career development and financial incentives for research; lack of recognition and appreciation among academic peer groups in India; and lack of financial support in the form of research grants for faculty. This has created a situation in which there are no policies, programmes, initiatives or incentives that encourage research in Indian universities. If Asian universities, particularly those in Singapore, Hong Kong, South Korea and Taipei, have enhanced their global reputation over the last decade, it is because they have put an extraordinary emphasis on research. We must follow suit.

▪ Scholarship and Publications: Most of our universities have a rather disproportionate emphasis on teaching. The poor faculty-student ratio doesn't leave faculty members with enough time or opportunity to engage in research. Academic scholarship and the desire to publish among faculty members thrive only in inspiring university communities. Unfortunately, our universities have not been able to inspire faculty members to undertake scholarships that lead to publications. While teaching is a critical component of education, higher institutions of learning that focus on knowledge creation and research should foster scholarship through the publications of their faculty. The publication of their work and citations of their research by other scholars and policy-makers is one of the most effective ways for a university to gain international recognition. Indian universities need to recognise that universities, unlike high schools and, to some extent, undergraduate colleges, have a larger commitment towards contributing to knowledge through publications.

▪ Law and Regulations: For Indian universities to get global recognition, the regulatory environment should favour complete autonomy and academic freedom based on the principles of regulatory transparency and institutional accountability. The existing regulatory framework of higher education in India is limited to keeping malpractices in higher education in check. While this is important, this process institutionalises mediocrity, where the ability to inspire confidence among faculty is significantly marginalised. Innovative measures are required to differentiate our universities on the basis of internationally-recognised benchmarks.

All this means that we should be willing to learn and to change, which also includes changing our attitude towards our universities. Our higher education system is crying out for reforms. But to introduce reforms, we must be prepared to introspect and then honestly address all the challenges that our higher education system faces today.

*C Raj Kumar is founding vice-chancellor, OP Jindal Global University, Sonepat*
The views expressed by the author are personal

Hindustan Times ND 26/09/2012 P-15

# Women scientists as good as men

**JOURNAL STUDY** Women researchers are as keen as men to pursue scientific work despite family pressures and are equally career-driven

**Charu Sudan Kasturi**
charu kasturi@hindustantimes.com

**NEW DELHI:** Indian women scientists are producing research as good as their male counterparts and are as career-driven, new analysis by scientists has found, busting a long-standing myth that women in science pick family over work.

An equal 63% of men and women scientists surveyed had published research in Science Citation Indexed (SCI) journals — a category of internationally respected peer reviewed publications — the analysis found.

While 62% of male scientists migrated from one research institution to another, the figure was higher (65%) for women, Council for Scientific and Industrial Research found.

Published in the latest edition of Current Science — country's leading science journal — the findings demolish arguments questioning the rationale of investing in encouraging more women to join science.

"Our study has shown that research output of female research scholars is at par with male research scholars," the researchers have written.

Women currently represent only 15% of India's researchers. The number of women entering science has also stagnated: 19.98% of college-age women enrolled in science higher education programmes in 2008-09, compared to 20.18% in 2004-05.

Though successive governments have taken initiatives to encourage women to join science and research, these moves face cynicism from critics who argue that women prioritise their family over work. These critics, the analysis suggests, are wrong. Women researchers are as keen as men to pursue scientific work despite family pressures, indicates the study.

Among the scientists surveyed, 29% women and 30% men had shifted across states, while 36% women and 32% men moved from one research institution to another within their state.

FOR FULL STORY
hindustantimes.com/scientists

## WHERE WOMEN STAND IN INDIAN R&D

From publications in top journals to willingness to migrate from their hometown to a different city for research, women researchers are on a par with men, if not ahead

Constitute **15%** of India's R&D personnel.

Publications in top journals

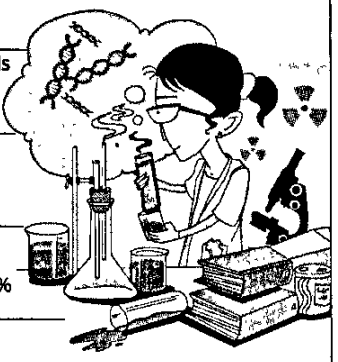
**63%** of women

**63%** of men

**65%** women scientists have changed their research institution, compared to 62% men.

**29%** women scientists have left their state for research, compared to 30% men.

**44%** women move from academics to research, compared to 36% men.



Source: Survey by CSIR's human resource development group

Illustration: ABHIMANYU

Asian Age ND 26/09/2012 P-4

SPOTLIGHT

# *NBE to conduct PG medical test*

**AGE CORRESPONDENT**
**NEW DELHI, SEPT. 25**

Putting to rest the apprehensions regarding the Common test for PG medical students, the Union health ministry on Tuesday announced that test will be conducted by the National Board of Examination (NBE). However, the NEET-PG for dental courses will be conducted by the All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS), for admission in MDS courses offered by all the dental colleges/institution coming under the ambit of the Dental Council of India (DCI).

The premier institute is expected to notify the notify the dates of the examination soon. As reported first by this newspaper, the first ever All India "Online test" for Post Graduate medical students will be conducted from November 23, 2012. The new system offers flexibility for aspirants to choose any date between November 23 to December 6, 2012. After following paper-pencil format for years, this will be the first time that an online test will be conducted for Post Graduate (PG) medical students. Sources in the ministry revealed that the notification with regard to the new computer based testing is likely to come up by next week.

The National Board of Examination (NBE) which agreed to conduct the Common Entrance Test (CET) for PG medical students decided to replicate the IIM model-an "online test" format for the students. In all 34 centres all across the country have been shortlisted. The candidates will also have a flexibility in choosing their centre on first come first basis. "Each state capital will have at least one centre where the candidate can give the test," said a senior official.

Hindustan ND 26/09/2012 p-7

## योजना आयोग ने 12वीं पंचवर्षीय योजना में की फीस बढ़ाने की वकालत

# विश्वविद्यालयों की बढ़ेगी फीस

नई दिल्ली | मदन जैड़ा

सरकारी विश्वविद्यालयों में मामूली फीस पर होने वाली पढ़ाई योजना आयोग को खटक रही है। आयोग ने विश्वविद्यालयों में छात्रों से ज्यादा फीस वसूलने की जोरदार वकालत की है। हाल में तैयार की गई 12वीं पंचवर्षीय योजना में आयोग ने कहा कि समृद्धि बढ़ रही है इसलिए विश्वविद्यालयों में फीस बढ़ाई जाए।

योजना आयोग ने आईआईएम जैसा फार्मूला अपनाने को कहा है। आईआईएम संस्थानों में निजी कॉलेजों से भी ज्यादा फीस वसूलता है। आयोग के अनुसार उच्च शिक्षा में सवा दो करोड़ छात्र प्रवेश ले रहे हैं। इनमें से 60 फीसदी निजी कॉलेजों में पूरी फीस चुकाकर पढ़ रहे हैं। वहीं 40 फीसदी छात्र सरकारी विश्वविद्यालयों एवं संस्थानों में पढ़ रहे हैं। लेकिन फीस के रूप में उनसे नाममात्र का शुल्क लिया जाता है। जबकि लोगों की पारिवारिक आय बढ़ रही है। इससे भी बड़ी बात यह है कि वे अधिक फीस चुकाने को तैयार हैं।

### योजना आयोग का तर्क

- जनता की पारिवारिक आय बढ़ने का दिया तर्क, लोग चुका सकते हैं ज्यादा फीस
- निजी कालेजों को भी अपनी फीस निर्धारित करने की छूट देने की सिफारिश
- आयोग के फैसले से मानव संसाधन विकास मंत्रालय सैद्धान्तिक रूप से सहमत
- आयोग का कहना है कि आईआईएम निजी संस्थानों से भी ज्यादा फीस वसूलता है

कुछ राज्य सरकारों ने अपने यहां विश्वविद्यालयों की फीस में इजाफा भी किया है लेकिन ज्यादातर राज्यों एवं केंद्रीय विश्वविद्यालयों ने इस दिशा में कोई पहल नहीं की है। इसलिए बेहतर है कि वे इसे तर्कसंगत ढंग से बढ़ाएं। तर्कसंगत ढंग से बढ़ाने का मतलब यह है कि प्रति छात्र पर आने वाली लागत का 20-30 फीसदी शुल्क वसूला जाना चाहिए। बता दें कि अभी लागत का पांच फीसदी से भी कम छात्रों से लिया जाता है। इतना ही नहीं, आयोग का कहना है कि गुणवत्ता में सुधार के लिए निजी कॉलेजों को फीस निर्धारण के मामले में भी सरकारी एजेंसियों को लचीला रुख अपनाना चाहिए। निजी प्रोफेशन कॉलेजों एवं विश्वविद्यालय के लिए फीस तय करने के लिए राज्यों में कमेटियां बनी हैं।

आयोग का मानना है कि फीस कम होने की वजह से कॉलेज अपने बुनियादी ढांचे में सुधार और शिक्षण की गुणवत्ता में सुधार नहीं कर पा रहे हैं। इस सिलसिले में मानव संसाधन विकास मंत्रालय ने फिलहाल कोई प्रतिक्रिया नहीं जताई है। अलबत्ता एक उच्च अधिकारी का कहना है कि आयोग की सिफारिश सही है।

जहां तक पेशेवर कॉलेजों की बात है तो अखिल भारतीय तकनीकी शिक्षा परिषद (एआईसीटीई) चाहता है कि राज्य सरकारें फीस को नियंत्रण मुक्त करें। एआईसीटीई के चेयरमैन एस. एस. मंथा के अनुसार इस बारे में राज्यों को जल्द दिशा-निर्देश जारी किए जाएंगे।