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## ‘Three of five engg graduates need training for IT/ITeS jobs’

*Our Bureau NEW DELHI*

THREE out of every five students who graduate from the country’s engineering institutes need to go through further training to be eligible for any job in the IT/ITeS sector, says a study by a local talent assessment firm.

It said just one in every twenty of the country’s engineering graduates is fit for a job in an IT product company while only one in five were fit enough to work with an IT services provider. The study by Gurgaon-based firm Aspiring Minds highlighted the need for improving training of students to make them employable.

The report tried to use actual candidate quality measurements and industry recruitment benchmarks to create a measure for employability, said Aspiring Minds co-founder Himanshu Aggarwal.

The employability study that covered over 40,000 engineering graduates and post graduates in Computer Applications, was based on the results of a standardised computer-based test called AMCAT taken by the engineering students across the country.

AMCAT covered various objective parameters for adjudging employability in the IT/ITeS sector including English communication besides quantitative, problemsolving and programming skills.

While employability of students for BPOs and technical support jobs (TSJ) are relatively better 38.23% and 25.88% respectively, companies in the knowledge based segment or KPOs find only one in every ten technical graduates employable. The report also highlighted that MCA students are relatively better placed among the engineering graduates for finding a job in IT sector as they possess superior computer programming skills.

[http://epaper.indianexpress.com/IE/IEH/2010/08/18/ArticleHtmls/18\\_08\\_2010\\_009\\_](http://epaper.indianexpress.com/IE/IEH/2010/08/18/ArticleHtmls/18_08_2010_009_)

## IIT-Ropar gets a leg up from Punjab bureaucrats

The officers and ex-IITians have not only helped cut through the red tape in setting up of the institute but have also taken it upon themselves to promote it

**DINKER VASHISHT**  
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**I**N A tribute to their alma mater, a host of IAS officers from the Punjab cadre have come together to help the fledgling IIT-Ropar tide over its teething troubles. Punjab Chief Secretary SC Agrawal, Rakesh Verma, MD Punjab Infotech, Vivek Pratap Singh, Chairman Greater Mohali Area Development Authority (GMADA), NS Kalsi, former Secretary IT, Anurag Agarwal, MD Trasco, Bhavna Garg, Special Sec-

retary Revenue, Ajoy Sharma, Special Secretary Finance UT, and Alok Shekhar, former Special Secretary Irrigation, have all been students of various IITs prior to joining the civil service.

The officers have not only helped cut through the red tape but are also helping promote the institute. As a starter, a curtain raiser of this year’s PAN IIT (the annual get together of IIT alumni from all over the world) is being organised in Chandigarh this Saturday.

The actual PAN IIT Conclave (scheduled this year at Noida from

29-31 October), which shall have speakers such as Kapil Sibal and Narayan Murthy, will have a special session on integrated socio-economic development of Punjab with IIT-Ropar in focus. A report has also been prepared by Ernst and Young to plan a knowledge hub for Ropar. It envisions the sort of development which Chennai witnessed after the Madras Research Park came up close to IIT-Madras. “It is great thing that this new IIT has come to the region. By next year, the first batch would be graduating. It is important to form

the right industry linkages to ensure that the region benefits from the institute,” says Rakesh Verma, who did his B Tech in Computer Sciences from IIT-Delhi.

Quick clearances from the government and that essential help is also coming the institute’s way. As one official commented, “Let us take the example of the new building. Now basically, CPWD has been commissioned to make this new campus. But a mere concrete edifice doesn’t befit a technology institute’s status. It is in matters such as these that we are pitching



Quick clearances are coming the IIT’s way.

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with providing expert assistance.” Prominent regional industrialists such as Sachit Jain of Vardhaman group (former alumnus of IIT-Delhi) have also been roped in. The ex-IIT government officials have decided that one of them would be visiting the campus every week. The institute itself is aware of the tremendous advantage accruing to it.

“Yes, several of the people whom we taught are today in pre-eminent positions in the government. The Chief Secretary himself is a former alumnus. It is heartening that these people are sensitive to our concerns,” said B D Gupta, a former Professor of Chemistry at Kanpur, now teaching at Ropar