

eNewspaper Clippings
June 29-30, 2010

TOI

Court seeks clarification from AIIMS

New Delhi: The Delhi high court on Monday sought a clarification from AIIMS as to how the seats for MS (Surgery) have been filled up this year under the general category.

Justice Mool Chand Garg directed AIIMS to furnish an affidavit by Wednesday explaining how the institute filled up all six seats for MS (Surgery). "Clarify as to whether they (candidates) have qualified and taken seats elsewhere in MS (Surgery)," Justice Garg said. The court was hearing a petition filed by Varun Kumar Aggarwal alleging AIIMS failed to follow the procedure while filling up seats for MS (Surgery).

Aggarwal's counsel contended his client was not called for counselling for the seats in surgery and added the vacancies were filled by candidates who have already obtained seats elsewhere after qualifying the All India PG entrance examination. TNN

Common test for all medical colleges in '11?

Kounteya Sinha / TNN

New Delhi: A common entrance exam for all medical colleges — public and private — for both undergraduate and PG courses could soon be in place, possibly as early as the next academic session.

The six-member panel set up by the health ministry to run the Medical Council of India (MCI) has suggested conducting of a common entrance exam, modalities for which will be finalised in the next two weeks.

Common entrance: Private medical colleges on board

New Delhi: The panel instituted by the Union health ministry to run Medical Council of India (MCI) has suggested a single entrance examination for all medical colleges. Speaking to The Times of India, panel member Dr Devi Shetty said, "At present, a student wanting to study medicine has to appear for 10-15 examinations, which can be highly stressful to both the student and his family. A common entrance exam will allow a student to give his best shot at one go."

Dr Shetty, however, made it clear that students will apply separately to every college in accordance with their preferences, be it AIIMS, PGI-Chandigarh or a private medical college, after taking the exam. A student will need to score in order to get admissions to the colleges of choice. The panel has held consultations with the CBSE for the proposed common entrance test.

Dr Shetty said, "The proposal has also been keenly welcomed by most private medical colleges who have expressed their willingness to get on board with us. However, we are presently consulting legal authorities to look at how to execute the programme, considering that private medical colleges at present have the right to conduct their own exams. We are in the process of consensus building."

ASSAULTED BY JUVENILES

IITian killed in New Jersey attack

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Washington: An IIT-ian who was assaulted by three juveniles while on a walk with his family in a New Jersey suburb succumbed to his injuries on Monday, police and family friends said. The assailants have been arrested.

Divyendu Sinha, 49, an alumnus of IIT Kharagpur died after battling injuries sustained in an attack by three 17-year-old delinquents in New Brunswick when he was walking with his family near his home around 11.40pm. His two sons, one a 10-year-old and the other a high school student, suffered minor injuries and his wife was unhurt.

No reasons were given for the attack in which no weapons were used. Police said initial reports did not indicate the attack was racially motivated.

The three 17-year-olds, whose names were withheld because of their age, were initially charged with aggravated assault which was later changed to murder and conspiracy to commit murder after Sinha's death at the Robert Wood Johnson hospital, nearly two days after the attack. Friends said Sinha was a computer scientist who was working as a technology officer at Siemens. After graduating from IIT Kharagpur, he earned a doctorate in computer science from the Stevens Institute of Technology in Hoboken, New Jersey. He served on the faculties of the Institute and Staten Island College.

Now, colleges to have professors

New UGC Norms Also Create Additional Post Of Senior Prof

Manash Pratim Gohain / TNN

New Delhi: Now, even colleges will get to have professors — posts, which were hitherto a preserve of the various departments in universities. Earlier, the maximum a teacher could move up to in a college was an associate professor.

This, among other measures, were stated in a new set of norms released on Tuesday by the University Grants Commission (UGC), entitled "Regulations on minimum qualifications for appointment of teachers and other academic staff in universities and colleges and measures for maintenance of standards in higher education".

The new regulations have also created an additional post — senior professor. Accordingly, the new hierarchy in ascending order is assistant professor, associate professor, professor and senior professor. Also, 10% of the number of posts of professors in a university would comprise senior professors, who have over 10 years of experience as professors, among other criteria.

As per the new provisions, even undergraduate colleges without a postgraduate department would have professors — 10% of the number of associate professors — and would be subject to the same criterion for selection and appointment as those of professors in universities. There would also be one post of a professor for each department in a postgraduate college.

Among other measures for standards, the UGC has made 180 working days mandatory for universities, while the minimum workload for a teacher is 40 hours a week for 30 working weeks. Moreover, the teachers should be available on a daily basis for five mandatory hours as well, while six hours per week should be dedicated for research.

Recruitment Guidelines

For assistant professors: Good academic record, 55% marks (or equivalent grade) in master's and NET qualification

PhD mandatory for post of professor and for promotion as professors

PhD mandatory for direct recruitment as associate professor

Five-year term for college principal, with only one possible additional term

Internal Quality Assurance Cell must in all universities/colleges One post of professor in each department of a postgraduate college

10% posts in an undergraduate college shall be those of professors

A FAIR CHANGE

This year, IIMs see more girls making the cut

Sruthy Susan Ullas / TNN

Bangalore: Women power. This is the buzz word in IIMs this year.

With many IIMs commencing classes for the 2010-12 batch this week, the institutes are witnessing more women than in the previous years. The once male-dominated campuses seem to be slowly giving way to girls now.

For instance, when IIMKozhikode commenced classes on Monday, there were 100 women walking down its corridors. That is, more than 30% of the class is girls, against 10% last year. This may be perhaps the largest number of women inducted to any IIM in a year.

Ditto at IIM-Bangalore — there are 78 girls out of the total 375 students. While last year it was 14% of girls in a class of 350 (around 49 students), it has risen to almost 21% in a class of 350 this year.

IIM-Lucknow is yet to complete its process. But officials confirmed that on considering the number of women who were sent offer letters, there was definitely a marked increase in the number of women in the batch.

Almost 25% of candidates who apply for CAT every year are women, though many do not get through. IIM directors attribute this year's success among women to many reasons.

"IIM-K, for instance, introduced an innovative selection process this year where in addition to Common Admission Test (CAT), consistent academic performance of candidates was taken into consideration for shortlisting and final selection. Apart from numerical scores, we also looked at other intelligences," IIMKozhikode director Debashis Chatterjee told TOI.

Himanshu Rai of IIM Lucknow said the weightage has varied for various parameters while selecting students. "For instance, additional weightage has been given to class X marks and additional five points given to extra curricular activities. Such changes could be the possible reason for more women getting through," he said.

Whatever be the reason, IIMs are happy that there is a better gender ratio in the classes now. "Female students generally tend to bring a large repertoire of management skills such as informality and social skills. Women usually bring in an emotional understanding to the job. A manager needs to have an emotional quotient along with analytical skills," said Chatterjee.

Agrees Subhashish Gupta at IIM-Bangalore. "Girls bring more diversity to the classroom." However, IIM-Ahmedabad has seen a decline in the number of girl students. While last year it was 15% of the total intake, this year it has come down to 11%. IIM Calcutta has more or less

ET

Making melting pots: NITs asked to draw foreign students

Smitha Venkateswaran PANAJI

HRD ministry officials feel there might be something, after all, to the 'melting pot' — the metaphor used by colleges in the US to describe diversity on campus. Now, they want a similar thing in India. In a March 4, 2010, circular to the National Institutes of Technology (formerly Regional Engineering Colleges), the ministry has asked them to go all out to attract foreign students. Not just non-resident Indians or people of Indian origin (PIO), but students from the US, UK and Australia as well. As officials see it, building diversity on campus is just a step away from preparing students to subsequently deal with increasing diversity at the workplace.

"Our curriculum is at par with international levels. What we lack is branding, and this will happen only when more foreign students apply to India," says MHRD deputy advisor N Mohan Das. In the letter, the MHRD entrusts the National Institute of Technology Karnataka (NITK) with the responsibility to "evolve a framework for publicising schemes" by creating "a web-portal for application, submissions and the entire admissions process".

The reason for roping in NITs is that while these institutes are second-rung in India after the IITs, they are not recognised abroad. At the same time, the meltdown has made students look at relatively cheaper options in Asian countries, for both study and work, making it the right time to go international. Currently, the 15% quota reserved for foreign students is filled by NRIs and PIOs from the Gulf. "We do not get quality students due to a

lack of information," says Prof Sunil Sarangi, director of NIT Rourkela, Orissa. "Most people look at the US or UK, unaware of the facilities available here." In its first year, the programme will focus on publicising Indian tech institutions in places with a substantial Indian population, like Dubai, Sharjah and Abu Dhabi. Later, the aim will be to target students from countries known to provide quality education, like the US, UK, France and Australia. NIT alumnus, home on vacation and teachers on official visits abroad, are expected to organise popularisation drives.

Even though the institutes are wooing foreign students, they are quite clear there will be strict norms for admissions. While the MHRD wants to make the admissions process under the direct admission of studies abroad scheme more user-friendly, Indian institutions say they will only accept "quality" students. "We are modelling the system along the lines of those in the UK and US," says Prof Sandeep Sancheti of NITK Surathkal, mentor-director of NIT Goa. Entrance to foreign students from this year will be based on their scores from international admissions tests like the SAT (Scholastic Aptitude Test) unlike earlier, when their school-leaving mark sheets would suffice.

That doesn't deter people like Catherine Nalubega of Ukraine, who is currently doing her second year civil engineering at NITK and plans to live on in India. Nalubega picked NITK over options in Russia and China, and feels the Indian government's scholarship schemes, if promoted better, will attract more foreign students. Having more foreign students will also bring in foreign exchange; especially when the recession has made people look at value-for-money, cost-effective education options. It's a win-win for everyone.

Nurture good ideas from employees

As the only Indian woman to spearhead technology strategy of two global giants, Motorola and Cisco, 49-year-old Padmasree Warrior is unique in her own way. An alumnus of IIT Delhi with a masters in chemical engineering from Cornell University, she was the first female executive to reach the top echelons at Motorola. About two years ago, she quit Motorola to join the \$36 billion technology and networking major Cisco Systems as chief technology officer. Here, Ms Warrior talks about the drivers of innovation at Cisco, the approach the company takes to nurture new ideas and how one can win a quarter-million-dollars:

We drive innovation across Cisco along three dimensions, and we call this our Build-Buy-Partner model. 'Build' refers to organic innovation which spans multiple market segments and product groups. To give you a sense of the scale of our internal R&D programmes, we launched more than 400 "homegrown" Cisco products last year, including our CRS-3 carrier-grade router all the way down to the new Slide HD Camcorder.

In all of our organic innovation, we place a lot of emphasis on nurturing good ideas from our employees around the world. For example, we have a program called iZone, which is a collaborative online forum that allows employees to propose ideas and then collaborate to iterate on each other's suggestions. Once a group of idea reaches a ready state, our emerging technologies group (ETC) oversees a careful selection process to identify the ideas that will 'graduate' into new business unit opportunities.

We are also using an internal leadership development programme called the action learning forum (ALF) to accelerate our ideas internally. With ALF we take high-potential executives in the company and break them into competitive teams ("red" vs. "green") to investigate and brainstorm on select ideas over an intensive six-week period. That culminates in a comprehensive business plan, including competitive analysis and go-to-market strategies. The winning team then presents their business plan to the Cisco board and, if they make a strong enough case, they get their concept funded to form a business unit within ETC.

As I mentioned, both iZone and ALF are internally focused. The corollary to those programmes is iPrize, which is an external-facing innovation program. iPrize is an open, global competition in which entrepreneurs submit proposals and collaborate to create the fundamental idea for Cisco's next billion-dollar business. The team with the winning idea receives a grand prize of \$250,000.

The second element in Build-Buy-Partner is the buy component, which refers to our M&A strategy. We have completed more than 138 acquisitions since we founded the company and our success rate is greater than 70%, which is unusual in the industry. In addition to acquisitions, we also invest, both directly and indirectly, into early stage companies on a global basis. That provides us with yet another avenue to access cutting-edge thinking while gaining exposure to new markets.

Last but definitely not least is the "Partner" aspect of our innovation model. Cisco has a long tradition of partnering with other leaders to drive industry standards and to create differentiated offerings. The Virtual Computing Environment (VCE) coalition we formed last year with EMC, VMWare and Intel is a good example of our focus on building collaborative ecosystems that are designed to deliver what customers want while changing the dynamics of the industry.

In the end, innovation is about delivering value to our customers and delivering results to our shareholders. When we look at innovative ideas, we use pretty straightforward criteria backed by deep analysis: Will this idea

actually solve a customer problem and strengthen our competitive differentiation in the market? What's the revenue opportunity? Perhaps most important, does this innovative idea align with our core focus on leveraging the Network Platform to change the way we live, work, play and learn?

Looking at it more broadly, one of the core challenges for every company is to balance innovation with operational excellence. In other words, businesses no longer have the luxury of striving for one or the other. Instead, companies need to drive innovation while simultaneously being operationally disciplined. That's the approach we are taking at Cisco as we drive 30 market adjacencies in areas as diverse as routers in space, sports & entertainment and cloud computing.

(As told to Shelley Singh)



PADMASREE WARRIOR CTO, CISCO SYSTEMS

Isle of quality education

Wish to study in Singapore but don't know where and how to begin? Here's the low-down on this South Asian education hub

HT Horizons Correspondent
 hhorizons@hindustantimes.com

Why the land of the lion? Well, Singapore has emerged as an international education hub offering a wide variety of courses in diverse fields such as management, engineering and biomedical sciences. Management courses combine the best of Eastern and Western management practices. Speciality courses such as arts, design, performing arts, tourism and hospitality are also popular with Indian students due to their strong industry connect. Most of these study options are "world-class at affordable prices". The country also offers a multi-cultural environment for students, especially Indians. Most important, the country is only four hours away from India.

Programmes popular among Indian students: Management courses are the most popular with Indian students. So are niche areas such as performing arts, tourism and hospitality.

Session commences: Academic intakes depend upon the course and the institution. In general, most academic intake takes place in the month of August or January every year.

When to apply: Students



Study options in Singapore are "world class at affordable prices"

should apply at least three months prior to the intake.

How to apply and to/through whom: Entry requirements differ from institution to institution. Students should check the course brochures or the college website to ensure that the course meets their requirements. They should then apply directly to the institution along with the relevant certificates and documentation. Local universities accept online applications. Some courses or programmes require students to undergo an interview or placement test.

Application docket checklist: Upon acceptance, students will be sent a Letter of Offer. Applicants who apply online to local universities can check their application status online. Students should then return the acceptance form by the closing date and plan to be in Singapore at least two weeks before the semester commences.

Eligibility for graduation courses include: Students should have completed at least twelve years of education before

applying for under-graduate courses.

TOEFL/IELTS scores are not mandatory for Indian students seeking admission in Singapore but some institutes insist on TOEFL/IELTS, depending on the courses applied to. In case of post-graduate courses, the requirement is a Bachelors' degree from a recognised university, a good GMAT /GRE score, prior work experience of at least two years and a good TOEFL/IELTS score for candidates who did not have English as the medium of instruction at the tertiary level

Accommodation options: There are many types of accommodation in Singapore, such as hostels, rentals, paying guest apartments and boarding establishments to suit different budgets and needs. Students should make prior arrangements for accommodation. Most educational institutions have an International Student Office for the purpose. The staff there offer advice on accommodation procedure, contacts for private rental offers, room-mate match-

ing services, handy tips about renting student homes.

Scholarships/ financial support: Singapore Education offers scholarships and financial support, especially to international students. The Ministry of Education offers scholarships especially for international students at different levels of study: Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) Secondary Scholarship; ASEAN Pre-University Scholarship; ASEAN Undergraduate Scholarships (AUS) as well as the Singapore Scholarship for ASEAN students. These scholarships are offered to students to pursue their tertiary education.

Some of the institutions, both public and private, offer scholarships and bursaries depending upon the course and the level of graduation. Education in Singapore's public universities is currently heavily subsidised even for international students.

The local universities provide tuition fee grants to international students, making education more affordable and accessible to them. International students

can secure scholarships, either from the universities or from companies, both local and MNCs.

Other financial assistance provided by Singapore education is as follows:

Tuition grant scheme: The Tuition Grant is around S\$22,400 for a lab-based undergraduate programme and \$19,000 for a non lab-based programme in the university and \$13,300 for a diploma programme in the polytechnic. In return for subsidised education, foreign students are required to serve a Tuition Grant bond by working in a Singapore-based company or in Singapore for three years after graduation.

Bursaries: International students may apply for bursaries to pay for their tuition fees and other expenses. Bursaries are awarded based on financial needs.

Study loans: These are usually payable upon graduation or completion of the programme at favourable interest rates. Some educational institutions offer additional loans for miscellaneous expenses.

Part-time jobs policy: Only full time foreign students enrolled at Singapore's public universities, polytechnics and certain special institutes are allowed work part time in Singapore while they are holding a student's pass. Students are only allowed to work a maximum of 16 hours a week during term time. Students on scholarships must seek permission from their sponsors before engaging in any form of employment

Student visa: To apply for a student pass, you must first be offered a full-time course and you need to have accepted the same from an educational institute in Singapore. Once you have been accepted into any educational institute you are eligible to apply online for the visa through the Students Pass On-Line Application and Registration (SOLAR) System, accessible at <http://www.ica.gov.sg/>

IIT-B announces business analytics programme

SJM School of Management, IIT Bombay, has announced an advanced certificate programme in business analytics in the major locations of Delhi like Raja Garden, Ashok

Vihar, Connaught Place, GK, Vikaspuri, Malva Nagar, Pitampura, Kingsway Camp, Dwarka, Noida 16, Noida 64, Sector 14 and DLF phase one targeting, researchers, executives, consultants, developers for better career prospects in the corporate sector. The programme aims to provide knowledge about sophisticated quantitative and statistical analysis by focussing on developing new insights and understanding of business performance. In contrast,

business intelligence traditionally focuses on using a consistent set of metrics to both measure past performance and guide business planning.

The teaching process will be highly interactive enabling students to watch and interact with the central faculty. It is a two-way communicated classroom consisting of judi-

icious blend of lectures, real life case studies, live corporate examples, general discussions and assignments. In order to provide greater industry insights, business leaders from the different industries would be invited to share their experiences. Candidates would be highly employable with an in-depth understanding of both theo-

retical and practical knowledge, which would enable them to adapt with diverse management and learn global leadership skills.

The programme focuses on enterprise analysis and requirement analysis, documentation and implementation. More details about the programme are available at www.indialearn.com.

A tale of an extraordinary talent

Sahal Kaushik, secured all India rank 33 in IIT-JEE 2010

Thirty-two students might have surpassed Sahal Kaushik in the IIT-JEE 2010, but no one can match the incisive intelligence and ease with which this 14-year-old solves the tedious problems in maths and physics which sometimes give shivers even to the engineering students.

These are not frivolous claims. Sample this: At the tender age of nine, Nehru Planetarium honoured him as the youngest astronomer of the year. When he turned 12, he made it to the top 37 out of 34,707 students at a national level olympiad in physics where he was the only school student among students from engineering colleges.

These are some of the many achievements he pulled off in his tiny but eventful academic life. But surprisingly this KVPY (Kishore Vikas Protsahan Yojana) scholar never boasts of his jaw-dropping accomplishments.

Though he is shy yet extremely intelligent; introvert but talks on science subjects at length. So what if he is too young, he mingles with his seniors at an amazing ease.

Having proved his mettle in IIT-JEE, which asks questions in physics, chemistry and mathematics, he is poised to make a mark at the International Biology Olympiad to be held in South Korea next month. His interests are quite diverse and dynamic. "He is equally interested in archeology, history, oceanography, astronomy, literature and physics. If he reads one book, he never reads it again. When he understands a problem, he never practices on it afterwards. He always looks for newer challenges and completely novel problems."

claims Colonel TK Kaushik, Sahal's father, while Sahal looks away.

When other kids of his age used to go to school, he used to stay at his book-rich home and would read books on

diverse subjects according to his convenience and choice. His mother never made him follow a school-like schedule either. "I used to buy work books of all subjects published by Singapore, Hodder and Ladybird publications," says his mother Dr Ruchi Kaushik.

Not only academic books, he started taking interest in graphic novels and comics just like other kids of his age. He has read more than 250 *Amar Chitra Katha* books and the entire series of Harry Potter among others. He likes watching movies too and his favourite ones are *Taare Zameen Pe*, *Sholey* and *Lagaan*.

When he was 12-year-old, he sat for tenth board exams, and scored 76 per cent marks and two years later, he secured an aggregate of 78 per cent in the twelfth board. It is intriguing to find that an average scorer in board exams excelled brilliantly in international Olympiads and got all India rank 33 in IIT-

JEE. "He doesn't like to write theory questions and in the CBSE board exams, you are supposed to explain things in an elaborate way," replies Ruchi.

When he was preparing for engineering entrance exam, he was taken to UP Singh, who runs Narayana Academy at Dwarka sector 4. Singh's meeting with that young kid was unforgettable. He recalls: "I asked him which book do you read for physics, he replied Resnick Halliday. Then merely to test his knowledge I asked him a few questions. As he was answering, I kept increasing the difficulty level of my questions. Finally, I went overboard and gave him a very difficult question, which could be solved with the application of 'integrations' (a mathematics topic taught in the Class XII). But he solved that problem by using 'differential'. I was flabbergasted. I felt as if the question was made only for him."

As told to Vimal Chander Joshi



Having proven his mettle in IIT-JEE, Sahal Kaushik (second from left) with his younger sister and parents, is poised to make a mark at the International Biology Olympiad to be held in South Korea next month

Tips and tricks

HOW TO PREPARE FOR IIT-JEE ?

The test of IIT-JEE is the test of fundamentals, analytical skill, lateral thinking, mathematical intelligence, speed and numerical accuracy. There are three subjects physics, chemistry and maths upto 12th standard having equal weightage to all subjects. To do well in IIT-JEE one has to follow a different approach for different subjects.

Five important tips to do well in physics

- The fundamentals of physics are related with day to day events, therefore visualization is most while learning physics.
- Read standard text books like Physics by Resnick Halliday, Concepts of Physics by H.C. Verma and NCERT Physics (XI & XII) to understand the fundamen-

als well, its application and its limitations.

- Solve each and every numerical of H.C. Verma first and then all previous years IIT-JEE questions.
- Use the concept of symmetry wherever possible, draw diagrams to simplify the problems and attempt every questions from first principle.
- Write Mock Test as many times as you can to improve your performance in the examination hall.

Five important tips to do well in chemistry

- Your must realize the importance of NCERT school book, particularly in inorganic chemistry. And keep on study inorganic chemistry on a regular basis because in inorganic chemistry

you will come across compilation of several facts and all of them can not be memorized in one go.

- For physical and organic chemistry, go through the basic concepts first. There is no problem asked so far in IIT-JEE in previous years that can not be cracked with the use of basic concepts. Even in composite problems also more than one concepts are used.

- Try to solve as many Numerical problems as you can from helping books like P. Bahadur or R.C. Mukherjee and Solve solved examples first, given in these books

- For organic Chemistry first understand the basic factors that decide the chemical behaviour of reagents and then try to solve structure and sequential prob-

lems on these basis.

- Keep on writing mock tests, in this way you will come across different kinds of problems and also it will help you a lot in boosting confidence level.

Five important tips to do well in maths

- Go through basic concept of algebra, inequalities, trigonometry, geometry, differentiation, application of Derivatives, integration and definite integral.

- Mathematics is the subject which requires a lot of practice and exposure of different types of problems. one must solve previous years question to have an idea about the standard.
- function and graphs are the core of it maths. One has to be very strong conceptually. Some text books like CALCULUS By I.A. MARON can do wonders if followed thoroughly.

I LOVE TO EAT

I love all sorts of delicacies be it Mexican or Chinese or Italian. (He likes everything but Indian food, his mother jokes.) We go to have dinners at restaurants sometimes and I prefer to eat Western food there. In my family, my sister, mom and dad prefer Indian food but I don't

I LOVE TO READ

I read books from diverse disciplines. I like to read books on astronomy, physics, history, chemistry and even biology. Recently I bought a book on the history of Egypt. (There are few subjects in which Sahal doesn't get interested. Once, his father got a book on architecture for Rs 3,000, but he never even opened it)

Once I was teaching him a subject known as fluid mechanics in physics, his mind was lost somewhere and he whispered: 'Sir, I have found out the differential Maxwell equation.' " I think he is a born scientist"

— UP Singh, director, Narayana Academy, Dwarka who taught Sahal

I spotted his extraordinary talent when he was just two (years old). Considering his super abilities, I decided to quit my job as a doctor and got him home schooled

— Dr Ruchi Kaushik, Sahal's mother

Senate members write to CM on poor results

MS UNIVERSITY ■ 'Teachers should be penalised'

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
VADODARA, JUNE 28

WITH the Faculty of Commerce at the M S University registering a 31 per cent pass percentage this year, the senate members have written a letter to the chief minister on the "consistent poor performance".

In the letter, the senate members have said the "teachers should be held accountable" for the poor quality of education.

"The condition of the faculty is deteriorating with every passing year. Endless number of students are given admission to the faculty, but majority of them fail," Narendra Ravat, a senate member, said. "If students are responsible for the poor performance, teachers are

equally accountable. It is high time that the faculty members take the issue seriously and think of ways to improve the situation."

Of the over 8,000 under-graduate students at the faculty, only around 3,000 have passed. These students include those who have passed with grace marks and who have been allowed to keep term (ATKT).

In the letter, the senate members have demanded action against the teachers.

"Just like teachers in schools are penalised for poor performance, university teachers should also face similar consequences," Ravat said. "The faculty is a political battle ground and nobody is interested to take education seriously. In all this, the reputation of MS University suffers."

PU Syndicate adopts UGC notice

June 28 notification pertains to appointment of teachers and other staff in universities

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
CHANDIGARH, JUNE 29

THE PANJAB University Syndicate meeting held on Tuesday evening adopted the notification of University Grants Commission (UGC) issued on June 28, 2010 for the appointment of teachers and other academic staff in universities and colleges and measures for the maintenance of standards in higher education.

These guidelines shall come into force with immediate effect provided that in the event any candidate becomes eligible for promotion under Ca-

reer Advancement Scheme in terms of these regulations on or after December 31, 2008, the promotion of such a candidate shall be governed by the provisions of these regulations.

Also, the performance-based assessment system would be out in place where university teachers would be graded and assessed on their performance, research paper and quality of other related projects for promotions.

Implementing the decision to fine students committing errors in their admission forms, the Syndicate authorised the vice-chancellor to take necessary steps regard-

ing the charging of Rs 500 from the candidates for the lapses on their part to curtail the practice of concealing information in admission forms from this session.

The Syndicate also resolved that all assistant professors being appointed in the university are required to clear Class X examination in Hindi and Punjabi or they would be given a period of two years to join the Panjab University.

The reservation of five per cent of seats for admission in different courses for the backward classes would be resumed from the current session. Also, 25 per cent of fee

concession would be granted to the wards of PU employees taking admission in self-financed courses from this year in addition to those who are already pursuing them.

The Syndicate also approved the recommendations of the Inspection Committee dated May 3, 2010 constituted by the V-C in terms of the orders of the Punjab and Haryana High Court in respect of Shri Dhanwantry Ayurvedic College and Hospital, Sector 46, Chandigarh. Accordingly, admission to first year professional BAMS for the session 2010-11 would be stopped forthwith; the college would be

given three months' time to improve its infrastructure and faculty position. Thereafter, the university may conduct a fresh inspection. On the basis of the fresh inspection report, the university may take a fresh decision on admissions and continuation of affiliation.

Regarding the Boston issue, the Syndicate accepted the report submitted by I S Chadha regarding the Harvard National United Nations Conference held in Boston earlier this year, and the V-C is now authorised to take necessary corrective and preventive measures against the students concerned.

From NewspaperDirect (Trial Version)

29 Jun 2010 DNA (Daily News & Analysis)

IIT Bombay magnet for JEE top rankers

IIT Kanpur losing sheen; few takers for newer institutes

Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Bombay, continues to be the preferred destination for top ranking candidates of the Joint Entrance Examination (JEE). After the first round of course allotment, 68 of the top 99 rankers, considered to be the elite, have chosen IIT Bombay. Twenty-four of the 'elite' chose IIT Delhi, a marginal increase from 16 in 2009.

HOW MUMBAI SCORED OVER THE REST

Choices of joint entrance top-rankers over the years

	2010*	2009	2008	2007	2006	2005
IIT Bombay	68	69	54	50	46	52
IIT Delhi	24	16	27	29	28	21
IIT Kanpur	5	6	9	15	20	17
IIT Madras	2	9	10	5	6	7
IIT Guwahati	0	0	0	0	0	0
IIT Kharagpur	0	0	0	1	0	3
IIT Roorkee	0	0	0	0	0	0

*Figures represent top 99 rankers for 2010 and top 100 for other years, Source: IITs

Nikunj Saunshi, JEE rank: 12

Kanishak Kataria, JEE rank: 14 **Nikunj Saunshi, JEE rank: 12** There's a lot of focus on extra-curricular activities apart from academics in IIT Bombay, compared to other IITs. Besides, Mumbai is my hometown, so a natural choice." Senior students at IIT Bombay told me that the institute offers a lot of scope for development. From very good research environment to great placements, the opportunities are many."

The second round of seat allotment will be declared on July 16.

The trend has been consistent since 2005 when 52 of the top 100 rankers opted for IIT Bombay; the number was 69 last year.

Several factors, like academics, overall ambience, location in the country's financial hub, growing awareness about IIT Bombay in the world and its reputation for attracting some of the best companies, have made it very popular among IIT aspirants, say experts.

"Students are the best judge. They perhaps perceive the overall infrastructure, teaching, facilities and avenues available at IIT Bombay better than the others," said Anil Kumar, JEE chairman, IIT Bombay.

Besides a vibrant campus life, said an academican, students are also attracted by IIT Bombay's focus on extra-curricular activities through its "popular technology and cultural competitions like Techfest and Mood Indigo". However, other IITs like that of Kanpur, which was considered 'the place to be' a decade or so ago, have slipped in popularity among top rankers over the years. Last five years' data shows that while IIT Kanpur had 17 among the top 100 in 2005 and 20 in 2006, the figure came down to six in 2009 and this year, the number stands at five (out of 99).

Among top 198 rankers this year, IIT Bombay is again a winner with 100 opting for it, followed by 53 at IIT Delhi. IIT Madras and IIT Kanpur have 23 and 22 of the top 198 respectively. The other older IITs like Kharagpur, Guwahati and Roorkee or the eight new IITs cannot boast of any among the top 99 or 198.

Similarly, of the top 470, the numbers are 182 at IIT Bombay, 125 at Delhi, 66 at Madras and 97 at Kanpur. Here too, the new IITs or the older ones did not manage to get even one student after the first round.

"Though there won't be much change in the top 300, the exact picture will emerge only after the second round of allotment," said Kumar.

IIM-A to set up shop in Hyderabad

29 Jun 2010 DNA (Daily News & Analysis)

In a move likely to transform Hyderabad into a major education hub, the Indian Institute of Management, Ahmedabad (IIM-A), has decided to set up shop in the city. The campus would come up in about 150 acres; its campus in Ahmedabad is spread over about 110 acres.

According to sources in the state government, the IIM-A board has formally decided to go ahead with the project in Hyderabad though the timeline and the investment are still not known. "We were informed unofficially that the board had taken a decision last week," an official source told DNA.

The government has agreed to give away about 150 acres, either free or at a nominal price, to IIM-A. It would also offer a grant of about Rs100 crore.



There is no provision for an IIM in Hyderabad in the 12th Five Year Plan. To overcome this, IIM-A reportedly agreed to set up a seamless campus in Hyderabad, which means an extension of the existing campus in Ahmedabad and not a new campus.

Chunk of IIT OBC quota unfilled, thrown open

30 Jun 2010, DNA (Daily News & Analysis)

For scheduled tribe candidates, 212 seats could not be filled this year

SEATS AVAILABLE ACROSS CATEGORIES

4,793

2,570 1,425 721

9,509

As many as 469 seats reserved for the other backward classes (OBC) remain vacant after the first allotment of seats in the Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs). Some candidates didn't make it despite a relaxation in the cut-off mark; several also failed to prove their OBC status, according to the Joint Entrance Examination (JEE) organising committee.

The older IITs are implementing the last phase of the 27% reservation for OBC candidates this year. The eight new IITs have been implementing the quota at one go.

"The IITs had set aside 2,570 seats for OBCs, but only 2,023 were filled. Some candidates could not establish their OBC status. Also, there were not enough qualified candidates. Further, many got the courses of their choice as general category students. The unfilled seats have therefore been transferred to the general category," said TS Natarajan, JEE organising chairman and professor at IIT Madras.

Of the 2,570 seats under the OBC category, 78 (around 3%) are reserved for students with physical disabilities. Of the remaining 2,492 seats, only 2,023 have been filled.

Of the 1,27,760 OBC candidates who appeared for the JEE, only 2,357 could qualify. So, there was already a shortfall of over 200 candidates. And, of those who qualified, 868 candidates had to be selected by giving 10% relaxation, while the remaining 1,489 made it to the list on merit. "But, despite the relaxation, we couldn't fill up all the seats," said another JEE official.

In 2009, 1,949 OBC students had qualified for 1,594 seats. But 51 OBC seats were converted to the general category.



Similarly, for scheduled tribe (ST) candidates, 212 seats could not be filled this year. SC/ST candidates, along with students with physical disabilities, get 50% relaxation from the last general category candidate.