Super-30's Kumar asks Sibal for change in JEE

SUPER SUGGESTIONS

- Super-30's founder felt that since both engineering and medical entrance exams target the same class XII science students, the proposed 'single engineering entrance examination' should be conducted on identical lines.
- Single engineering exams should be of MCQ type in subjects of physics, mathematics and chemistry based on class XI and XII curriculum.
- Exams should be set by joint team of subject experts of CBSE and IITs for more balanced paper.
- Proposed single exam should be conducted thrice during April to May and then aggregate of the best two be considered for ranking.
- Steps already taken by IIT-JEE to enhance transparency and check malpractices need to be adopted for new examination.
- Three chances to the rural students, he pointed out.

Kumar suggested that the best way to provide a level playing field would be the option of a single multiple choice test based on 10+2 syllabus. "If AIIMS can admit students through a single test, IIT-JEE can also do it," he added. This process will also reduce stress levels among students and ultimately lead to more importance being attached to school studies.

Kumar also strongly objected to the inclusion of a subjective special test in addition to the MCQ-based test due to unfairness and subjectivity in manual evaluation.

Other important suggestions from Kumar included continuation of all transparency norms adopted in IIT-JEE for the past two years.

On behalf of underprivileged students, he said, "If they get three chances, in keeping with their starting disadvantage, that will automatically increase their participation and reduce dependence on coaching."

Having set up Super-30 a decade ago, Kumar provides free residential coaching to 30 meritorious students from the underprivileged sections of society. So far, 236 students have made it to the IITs, drawing worldwide attention to the programme.
आईआइटी में गंवाई बच्चों को मिले और मौका

उर्मिला, जासूस: सभी केंद्रीय प्रोशपों को वित्तीय संख्या संस्थानों में एक ही संस्कृत प्रक्षेप परीक्षा से दाख़िल किए जा सकते हैं। यह प्रक्षेप दो साल से अधिक अवधि के लिए बना है। इस प्रक्षेप के अंतर्गत एक ही संस्कृत प्रक्षेप परीक्षा से दाख़िल किए जा सकते हैं।

केंद्रीय वित्तीय संस्थानों में एक ही संस्कृत प्रक्षेप परीक्षा का उद्देश्य केंद्रीय वित्तीय संस्थानों में एक ही संस्कृत प्रक्षेप परीक्षा के लिए बनाए जा सकते हैं।

उपरोक्त बातों को लेकर उन्होंने बताया कि एक ही संस्कृत प्रक्षेप परीक्षा के लिए बनाए जा सकते हैं। इसके अलावा उन्होंने बताया कि एक ही संस्कृत प्रक्षेप परीक्षा के लिए बनाए जा सकते हैं।

इन सभी बातों को लेकर उन्होंने बताया कि एक ही संस्कृत प्रक्षेप परीक्षा के लिए बनाए जा सकते हैं। इसके अलावा उन्होंने बताया कि एक ही संस्कृत प्रक्षेप परीक्षा के लिए बनाए जा सकते हैं।

उन्होंने बताया कि एक ही संस्कृत प्रक्षेप परीक्षा के लिए बनाए जा सकते हैं।
200 universities across India in next 5 yrs: Sibal

HT Correspondent

NEW DELHI: Higher education is set to get a big fillip with the HRD ministry finalising plans of putting in ₹80,000 crore to improve access to colleges and universities. HRD minister Kapil Sibal on Wednesday told Lok Sabha that 200 new universities and a degree college in each district of India will be opened in the next five years. “We have asked for ₹20,000 crore for opening new universities in the 12th plan,” he said. In addition to new institutions, many of the existing colleges will be upgraded either into universities or autonomous colleges with the power to award degrees. The government hopes to double the gross enrollment ratio from the present 17% to 30% by 2020. The budget for revitalising higher education will be ₹80,000 crore, the largest allocation for higher education so far.
UGC selection process faces PIL hurdle

ANUBHUTI VISHNOI
NEW DELHI, APRIL 25

The appointment process for the Chairman and Vice-Chairman’s positions at the country’s top higher education regulator — the University Grants Commission (UGC) — has now run into litigation.

Two PILs have been admitted by the Delhi High Court, challenging the selection process for both posts. While one accuses the Union Human Resource Development Ministry of colluding with a particular candidate, another argues that candidates being considered for the UGC top job are either ineligible or inefficient.

The search-cum-selection committee formed by the HRD Ministry to appoint the Chairman had shortlisted two candidates — Prof Pankaj Chandra, Director IIM-Bangalore and Prof Seyed Hasnain, former Vice-Chancellor of Hyderabad University. While the Kapil Sibal-led ministry indicated Chandra’s suitability for the job, the Cabinet’s Appointments Committee sending the names back with queries has delayed the selection process.

On the other hand, the selection process for the Vice-Chairman is still on.

One of the PILs has been filed by a professor from Bangalore University, who was also in the fray for the UGC Chairman’s job. It says that while there were allegations of irregularities against Prof Hasnain, Prof Chandra was incompetent for the position. Instead, the petitioner says, he is better qualified for the UGC Chairman’s position than Hasnain or Chandra.

Serious allegations have also been made in the PIL challenging the UGC Vice-Chairman’s selection process. This PIL alleges that the HRD Ministry is hand-in-glove with a particular candidate to ensure his selection and has tweaked vacancy advertisements and the constitution of the selection committee accordingly. It has also questioned the legality of the current Vice-Chairman’s tenure.

The Delhi High Court has asked the HRD Ministry to share with it the progress made by the search-cum-selection committee.

With the selection process for the top positions at UGC embroiled in these controversies, the HRD Ministry is staring at the possibility of UGC going headless. While the UGC Chairman’s post has been vacant for quite a few months now, Vice-Chairman Prof Ved Prakash, who incidentally is the acting Chairman at present, completes his term on May 8.

The UGC Chairman’s selection process, incidentally, has been fraught with controversies from the beginning. While candidates in fray resorted earlier to political canvassing of sorts, intense lobbying was on even at ACC level with MPs writing in support of one candidate.

Times of India, ND 26/04/2012

19% of engg, B-school seats vacant last yr

New Delhi: About 19% seats in engineering colleges and business schools across the country remained unoccupied in the 2011-12 academic year, the government said on Wednesday. In a written reply to the Lok Sabha, MoS in HRD Purandereswari said that of the total 14,85,894 seats in engineering colleges across the country, 2,82,320, or 19%, remained unoccupied in 2011-12.

Similarly, 66,988 seats, or 19% of the 3,52,571 total positions in business management schools remained vacant last year, the minister said, citing data from the All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE).

Purandereswari also informed the House that 20% of faculty posts in engineering colleges and 23% in management schools were lying vacant in that academic year.
'इनोवेटिव वर्ल्ड' की राह पर नए आईआईएम बिहार को एक साथ लेकर चलने पर भरोसा करता है। इसी हिसाब से कुछ योजनाएँ शुरू किए जा रहे हैं।

इनमें ईस्ट (इंडियन मैनेजमेंट, इन्वेस्टमेंट एंड स्टेट्सरिव्यूसिटी), वेस्ट (न्यूयॉर्क मैनेजमेंट) और रीजनल (एनजी मैनेजमेंट, पब्लिक हेल्थ, माइनिंग और पब्लिक पॉलिसी).

न्यूयॉर्क मैनेजमेंट के लिए आईआईएम रांची ने सेट्टल इंस्ट्रक्टूर ऑफ सॉफ्टवेयर इंडिया से हाथ मिलाया है। यहाँ, बिजनेस एनालिस्टिक्स के लिए इंस्ट्रक्टूर ने आईआईएम के साथ कार्य कराया है।

इन दोनों को लिए फैकल्टी रिक्टरर के जीवन में हुआ है। जेवार्ड ने बताया, '2013 में हम जाने-मानी अमेरिकी दुनिया के साथ मिलकर 18 महीने का पार्टो-टाइम एजन्सी मैनेजमेंट प्रोग्राम लॉन्च कर रहे हैं। हम सलामिंग क्वालिटी हेल्थ कर्म रोडस्टीक बिहार के लिए भी रहे हैं। माइनिंग प्रोग्राम के लिए अभी भी पार्टनर की तलाश है।'
Demand for seats in lower rung B-schools to dip further

Industry fears 100,000 management seats out of 350,000 to remain vacant this year

KALPANA PATHAK
Mumbai, 25 April

Down south, a B-school has put up kiosks at an airport to promote itself. Another B-school is flaunting its international tie-ups to attract students.

As the admission season begins at B-schools this year, management institutes resort to such methods of promoting themselves as they fear they may not be able to fill the seats this time, too.

While industry players expect one-third or over 1,00,000 management seats to go vacant this year, All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) says the numbers may not be as high. The country has nearly 4,000 B-schools with 3,50,000 seats.

"There are apprehensions that nearly 1,00,000 seats will go vacant this year. In tier-2 and tier-3 B-schools, the vacancy is nearly 50 per cent. In Uttar Pradesh alone, for 24,000 seats, only 12,000 students have appeared for the entrance examination. The situation is quite grim," said H Chaturvedi, director, Birla Institute of Management and Technology, Noida.

S S Mantha, chairman, AICTE, does not agree. "If you look at the trend of vacant seats in the last two-three years, there is a marginal difference. Two years ago it was 15 per cent and last year it was around 17 per cent. This year, we think, it will be around 18 per cent. There is a general recession this year. We see a definite change next year."

The fears of B-schools are unfounded. In the academic year 2010-11, in Maharashtra, the number of vacant seats in engineering and management was 30,000 and 20,000, respectively. This forced the state government to write to AICTE to not give approval for setting up new colleges offering such courses. Last year, Maharashtra had 32,000 vacant seats in engineering and 16,000 vacant seats in management.

Despite this, this year Maharashtra will have 30,000 more engineering seats and 3,000 more management seats with the AICTE approving 17 new institutes in the state, including 11 engineering and four management institutes. Besides, existing Institutes have also been allowed to increase the number of seats.

Mantha says as a regulator he cannot stop institutes from coming up. It will be a good idea for the not-so-good B-schools to collaborate with renowned B-schools in the country or with international B-schools.

Besides, looking at small and medium enterprises (SMEs) is an option. "It will be a good idea to collaborate with the SMEs," said an industry expert.

Experts have been arguing that B-schools need to collaborate with industries to survive - not only to have industry participation for guest and special lectures but also for internship and placement of management students.

Many B-schools are not located in and around cities. Hence, because of lack of industries and industrial development happening around them, the placement process is never successful. This is one of the reasons why there are few takers for management seats in these institutes.

Mantha says if existing B-schools want to get to rural areas AICTE will go all out to help them. Management schools providing good education also has to see that students get opportunity to interact with people in industries.

Last year, citing low admission rates, 138 institutes across the country shut shop. These include 15 engineering, 65 management and 29 MCA institutes, across Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra, Uttar Pradesh and Rajasthan.

"Ultimately, it is the question of value proposition. B-schools will have to look at the content they are providing," says Mantha.
Nalanda varsity Act to be amended

Planning Commission constitutes panel for the same

Aarti Dhar

NEW DELHI: In the face of serious hurdles being faced by Nalanda University over funding and infrastructure development, the Planning Commission has constituted a committee to support the varsity in development of basic infrastructure and facilities, including road and air connectivity and timely and adequate flow of funds.

Another committee will suggest amendments to the Nalanda University Act, 2010, on provisions relating to academic, administrative and financial autonomy and propose amendments to provide for full autonomy in matters related to making appointments, determining salaries and emoluments and auditing.

The committee will also suggest amendments to the Act to ensure that the university acquires international stature and excellence through representative and flexible governance and forward looking legislation. It will first examine statutes, existing ordinances and regulations and suggest changes so that these are consistent with the Act.

It will lay down broad principles for making statutes, existing ordinances and future regulations in the interest of consistency and clarity and will suggest amendments/insertions in the Act to take care of existing gaps with a view to see that the varsity functions smoothly.

The committee comprises Professor N. R. Madhava Menon, former Vice-Chancellor, West Bengal National University of Juridical Sciences, who will be the chairman of the 10-member committee. The other members include Indian Institute of Management-Bangalore director Professor Pankaj Chandra; Nalanda University Vice-Chancellor Gopa Sabharwal; Rajiv Gandhi Institute for Contemporary Studies, New Delhi, Director Professor G. Mohan Gopal; South Asia University vice-president Professor K. Rajiv Saxena and Lady Sri Ram College, New Delhi, Principal Meenakshi Gopinath.

The committee on infrastructure — National Monitoring Committee (NMC) — will include the Planning Commission Deputy Chairperson, National Security Adviser of the Prime Minister’s Office and Nalanda University Vice-Chancellor, among others.

The committee will examine and provide recommendations on strategic infrastructure, regional and local development and institutional arrangements necessary to support the development of a world-class university at Nalanda and ensure timely and adequate flow of funds to the varsity.

The specific terms of reference of the committee include providing specific recommendations for international and regional connectivity via air, road and rail, suggest sustainable regional and urban development plans especially for water, energy and physical security, strategic risk mitigation and necessary social infrastructure to support the campus and environs.

It will also look into preemptive local and urban development and land-use controls and integration with local and heritage development needs and institutional arrangements necessary to make it possible. Defining further studies and to support the planning and development of the Nalanda campus in addition to monitor timely and adequate flow of funds to the university are some other terms of reference.
एआईईई की परीक्षा
29 को, बैठेंगे 11.64 लाख परीक्षार्थी

नई दिल्ली (एसएनबी)। केंद्रीय माध्यमिक शिक्षा बोर्ड (सीबीएसई) ने ऑल इंडिया इंजीनियरिंग-आर्किटेक्चर प्लॉट्स्म एजुकेशन 2012 की ऑनलाइन व ऑफलाइन परीक्षा की तैयारियां पूरी कर ली हैं। इस बार बोर्ड की इंजीनियरिंग परीक्षा में कुल 11 लाख 64 हज़ार परीक्षार्थी हैं। बोर्ड के अनुसार ऑनलाइन परीक्षा के लिए कुल 10 लाख परीक्षार्थी हैं।

एआईईई-12 की ऑफलाइन परीक्षा 29 अप्रैल को है। बोर्ड की ऑफलाइन परीक्षा में 1735 परीक्षा केन्द्र बनाए गए हैं। बोर्ड की ऑनलाइन परीक्षा के लिए 221 परीक्षा केन्द्र बनाये गये हैं। बोर्ड की ऑनलाइन परीक्षा के लिए 7, 12, 19 व 26 मई को आयोजित की जाएंगी। बोर्ड ने इस परीक्षा के लिए परीक्षार्थी के लिए एडमिट कार्ड भेज दिये हैं। देशभर में नेशनल इंटरनॉर्मोल ऑफ टेक्नोलॉजी, ऑइआईआईटी, सेंट्रल फंडिंग इंस्टीट्यूशन आदि के बोर्ड-बेंटिक व बी आर्किटेक्चर व बी प्लांटिंग कोर्सेज में दाखिले के लिए एआईईई-12 आयोजित की जाती है।