Apex court allows pvt colleges to offer MBA, MCA sans AICTE nod

Aesha Datta
New Delhi, April 27

In a major decision, the Supreme Court has ruled that private colleges need not seek approval from the All India Council for Technical Education to conduct courses in computer application and management at the postgraduate level. However, AICTE Chairman S.S. Mantha said the Council would file a review petition against this order early next week.

“Our Act (AICTE Act) says which disciplines are covered. Suddenly, one can’t say that it isn’t correct,” Mantha said.

The matter came up before the apex court in 2004 after the Madras High Court had ruled in favour of AICTE.

The Association of Management of Private Colleges and a few other private colleges in Tamil Nadu had filed the case on the grounds that MBA is not a technical course and should not be governed by the AICTE. They further argued that both MBA and MCA were brought under the purview of the AICTE after some amendments in 2000 without being placed before the Parliament as is the normal process.

UNREGULATED SYSTEM
Mantha said the changes may not have gone through Parliament but were done in “good faith.”

“One should see the larger problem. Unregulated sys-
tems and unfair trade practices will start proliferating if this happens (if these courses do not require AICTE’s approval),” Mantha said, adding that thousands of students are likely to suffer the consequences.

Mantha said there are about 4,000 management institutions and 1,600 institutions running MCA programmes in the country.

However, some private colleges running MBA courses feel that an independent body, on the lines of the Medical Council of India, should control management education in the country, instead of being governed by a body, which they say, is essentially meant for technical education.

The head of a leading private management institution, who requested anonymity, said that the AICTE had earlier impinged on the autonomy of private management colleges and that it was difficult for them to function efficiently under its stringent rules.

The Supreme Court has ruled that the AICTE can play an advisory role and prescribe standards of education by sending notes to the University Grants Commission for colleges affiliated to Universities. But colleges will not need AICTE approval to run these courses.

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नई दिल्ली। दीयू के सेलन 2013-14 में दाखिले के लिए अपल्ड करने वाले स्टूडेंट्स को कॉलेजों के अन्व-अन्य एडवार्ड्स एडवार्ड्स रेपोर्टर ने दो बार नहीं होने पड़ा। सभी कॉलेजों के एडवार्ड्स एडवार्ड्स रेपोर्टर ने एक समान होगा। मसलन, यदि राकेश नाथ कॉलेज में इंडियनिस्ट ऑफिस क्षेत्र में दाखिले की शर्त यह होगी कि कैंडिडेट के ग्रेड में 55 पर्सेंट या उससे ज्यादा मार्क्स होने चाहिए, तो अन्य कॉलेजों में भी दाखिले के लिए ग्रेड नियम में इसी ही उँची कीशण की शर्त रहेगी। इस प्रकार नवम्बर कॉलेज के एसएसएससी या एसएससी विज्ञान ही कबूल हो। फक्तल है कि दीयू ने बेकाबू लेकिन चार साल का दिशा फर्मान लाने जा रहा है। इस क्षेत्र में दाखिले के लिए अपल्ड करने वाले सभी स्टूडेंट्स को टाउन कोर्स मिलेगा। कॉलेजों में बीए, बीसीए व बीसीएस में कोर्स होने जा रहे हैं। उनकी संख्या एक साल में समाप्त होगी। लेकिन इस क्षेत्र को लाने के लिए सबसे बड़े बाह्य कॉलेजों के अन्व-अन्य एडवार्ड्स रेपोर्टर है और यूनिवर्सिटी अब इसे दूर करना चाहती है। दरअसल, कमजोर होने पर यह भी विलयों के विकास को अंतस्त नहीं हो जाएगा। उन्होंने अपने कॉर्सों में समाप्ति की जाएगी। लेकिन इस क्षेत्र को लाने के लिए सबसे बड़े बाह्य कॉलेजों के अन्व-अन्य एडवार्ड्स रेपोर्टर है और यूनिवर्सिटी अब इसे दूर करना चाहती है। दरअसल, कमजोर होने पर यह भी विलयों के विकास को अंतस्त नहीं हो जाएगा। उन्होंने अपने कॉर्सों में समाप्ति की जाएगी।
Logistics hurdles seen in new IIT-JEE pattern

BY PRASHANT K. NANDA
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NEW DELHI

Some Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs) are experiencing qualms about the new-format Joint Entrance Examination (JEE) for students seeking admissions.

Contrary to the hard-sell that the new, two-stage format being introduced this year will make life easier for the IITs and their aspiring students, it could prove to be a cumbersome exercise and a logistical headache, said the administrators of three of the older IITs.

The format works this way: the first part of the joint entrance examination known as JEE-Main is open to all students and their performance in the test will be key for admission to all centrally-funded technical colleges like the National Institutes of Technology, but not to the IITs.

The 150,000 top rankers in the JEE (Main), conducted between 7 April and 25 April, will qualify for appearing in the next stage, called JEE-Advanced, for admission to the IITs and the Indian School of Mines, Dhanbad. These 150,000 candidates also need to finish among the top 20 percentile of students in their school board examinations.

Some IIT administrators are concerned about the possibility of students from a particular state or a few states cornering a majority of the 150,000 top spots in the JEE-Main to qualify for taking JEE-Advanced. That may hinder the smooth conduct of the second stage of the exam in that state or region, given that the preparations for the exam are on an all-India basis.

“The IIT-Main exam results will come out in the first week of May and the registration for JEE-Advanced will start from May 8. Technically you will have little time for arranging new exam centres and other related logistical supports (in the event of the above scenario). This could create a problem,” said a senior administrator at an IIT.

For example, if Bihar and Tamil Nadu students form a sizeable portion of the top rankers, then IITs may have to redraw the exam plan. Right now, the IITs have arranged just two centres for Tamil Nadu and four for Bihar.

“What has happened because of the two-tier exam system is that it has become cumbersome. Earlier, we knew how many students are there from a state and prepare accordingly but the new system has taken away that advantage. You have to plan and execute everything from registration to delivery within a period of three weeks,” said a professor at IIT-Kharagpur, requesting anonymity.

The professor said that not just arranging extra exam centres, but moving staff and securing question papers at fresh test centres could prove to be a challenge.

“IITs have a tradition of offering fool-proof entrance (tests), but that needs robust preparation. Under this new system, it may prove to be a challenge this time,” he said.

IIT-Delhi, which is coordinating the conduct of JEE-Advanced, shares some of the concerns. “It’s a challenge. Students from which state will perform better is unknown and may throw a surprise,” said IIT-Delhi director R.K. Shevgaonkar. “We will soon sound out to potential exam centres besides those which we have finalized so far.”

What’s more, the requirement that those appearing in JEE-Advanced must finish in the top 20 percentile of their school board exams doesn’t necessarily inspire confidence that IITs will get a better crop of students this year, one professor said.

For example, students scoring at least 58% and above in their class 12 board exam in West Bengal and 64% in Bihar fall in the top 20 percentile while in Andhra Pradesh, a student scoring a minimum of 67% belongs to the category. For Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) students, the comparative score is 78%.

The new format may not reduce the burden for students either. “The number of entrances is still two. Students have to register twice, sit for the exam twice. So, where is the question of (it becoming) less burdensome for students? Internally we knew that this system may not be (the) best,” said a professor from IIT-Bombay, who declined to be named.

The format of the IIT-JEE, one of the toughest examinations in the country with just two of every 100 candidates qualifying for admission to the institutes, was tweaked after complaints over the falling standards of IIT students.

IIT aspirants are upset over the top 20 percentile requirements. “I fail to understand how a student’s scoring 79% is less talented than somebody scoring 80% and getting qualified to sit for the JEE-Advanced. This is little unfair for many students who are sitting on the fence of that 20 percentile yardstick,” said Dipak K., an IIT aspirant from Delhi.
IIM-I HARASSMENT CASE: WOMAN PROF TERMINATED

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INDORE: The Indian Institute of Management - Indore (IIM-I) on Sunday is learnt to have terminated a woman professor who had levelled sexual harassment charges against one of her associate professors. According to the institute's sources, the director took a final call on the case.

The complaint was originally filed on February 20, and the case was forwarded to the institute's gender sensitivity committee, which was soon dissolved. A new committee was formed thereafter.

A series of meetings were held by the committee in which both the accused and the victim's statements were recorded. IIM-I spokesperson Akhtar Parvez said, "All the government norms were followed in the investigation and accordingly a report was submitted to the director by the gender sensitivity committee."
Less than 1% of IIT alumni respond to magazine poll on rape, women’s safety

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MUMBAI: The quarterly alumni magazine of the Indian Institute of Technology, Bombay has accused alumni of “apathy” and “indifference” after only a small fraction of the community participated in a conversation about women’s safety and rape in the magazine’s latest issue.

In an alumni poll open to 25,000-plus members, only 215 responded to questions on women’s issues. The survey, initiated after the December Delhi rape and several other instances of sexual assault, has been published in Fundamatics, the alumni quarterly.

“To experience such indifference for an issue that made the ground, across geographies, shift beneath the feet of millions and billions was something that we were not ready for,” the magazine said in a preamable to the survey results.

“This level of apathy needed a new word that we didn’t know and we hope to never learn it in the future too... Why did an audience that has never shied and often been loud and unrestrained in voicing their opinions go mostly quiet...?”

In the previous two polls, more than 1,000 people had participated.

Of those who responded to the online poll, 45% said they were willing to set aside some time to volunteer if the fraternity set up a forum to work with police, administration, counsellors, rape victims and others on women’s safety issues. Others offered financial help (7%) and support in other ways (83%), but 21% said they were not sure if they were interested in participating in outreach.

However, not everyone thinks this makes IITians apathetic. “It doesn’t mean IITians don’t care or don’t have an opinion, just that since this was a general topic, people might have felt there were others more qualified to comment on these matters,” said Bakul Desai, chairperson of the IIT-B Alumni Association.
AICTE’s role only advisory, not to issue sanctions, says Supreme Court

NEW DELHI: The role of All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) is only ‘advisory’ and it has no authority to issue any sanction on universities, the Supreme Court has said while clarifying that colleges affiliated to varsities are not required to take its approval for running MBA and MCA courses.

The apex court said as per provisions of the AICTE Act and University Grants Commission (UGC) Act, the council has no authority which empowers it to issue or enforce any sanctions on colleges affiliated with the universities as its role is to provide guidance and recommendations.

‘Also, from the reading of paragraphs 19 and 20 of ‘Parashvanath Charitable Trust case’ it is made clear after careful scanning of the provisions of the AICTE Act and the University Grants Commission Act, 1956 that the role of AICTE vis-a-vis universities is only advisory, recommendatory and one of providing guidance and has no authority empowering it to issue or enforce any sanctions by itself,’ a bench of justices B S Chauhan and V Gopala Gowda said.

The court also said MCA is a technical course while MBA is ‘not a technical course’ within definition of AICTE Act.

“The same (MCA) is a technical education and therefore, it comes within the definition of technical education but for its proper conduct of courses and regulation the role of AICTE must be advisory and for the same, a note shall be given to the UGC for its implementation by it but not the AICTE,’ it said.

“Therefore, for the reasons assigned while answering the points which are framed in so far as the MCA course is concerned, the approval from the AICTE is not required for obtaining permission and running MBA course by the appellant colleges,’ the bench said.
AICTE’s role only advisory, not to issue sanctions: SC

NEW DELHI, APRIL 28

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"Therefore, for the reasons assigned while answering the points which are framed in so far as the MCA course is concerned, the approval from the AICTE is not required for obtaining permission and running MBA course by the appellant colleges," the bench said.

The judgment came on a bunch of appeals filed by Association of Management of Private Colleges along with various colleges of Tamil Nadu challenging the order of the Madras High Court which had held that even though varsities are not required to take permission from AICTE, its affiliated colleges are required to do so.

The apex court also held that not placing the amended regulations on the floor of Parliament vitiates it in the eyes of law.

"In view of the above said decision, not placing the amended regulations, on the floor of the Houses of Parliament as required under Section 24 of the AICTE Act vitiates the amended regulations in law and hence, the submissions made on behalf of the appellants in this regard deserve to be accepted," the bench said.
दीटीयू में पांच नए कोर्स को मिली मंजूरी

बॉर्ड ऑफ मैनेजमेंट की बैठक में कई महत्वपूर्ण निर्णय, दोगुनी हुई फेलोशिप की संख्या

खत्म होगी अनिवार्य विषय में कटआफ की बाध्यता

नया प्रस्ताव

दीटीयू के सभी कार्यालयों में अनिवार्य विषय में कटआफ को बाध्यता दी जाएगी। इसके लिए दीटीयू ने विभिन्न कमीशन ने नया प्रस्ताव तैयार किया है। इसके विभिन्न कार्यालयों में बाध्यता की लागत को निश्चित किया है।

अधिवेशन में 85 प्रतिशत के साथ गतिविधि विषय में भी इसे ही प्रतिस्पर्धा खोलकर कटआफ जन्मा होगा। इसके लिए दीटीयू ने द्वितीय सत्र में अन्य विषयों को बांटकर नए प्रस्ताव तैयार किया है।
ONLINE REGISTRATION FOR JEE ADVANCE FROM MAY 8

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KANPUR: Online registration of candidates appearing at the Joint Engineering Examination (advanced) would be held from May 8 to 13. The exam will be held on June 2 and results announced on June 23.

Candidates can log on to www.jeeadv.iitd.ac.in to register themselves after the JEE main results come out on May 7.

According to sources in the Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE), admit cards would be issued to the candidates through the website from May 16. The examination fee for general and the OBC candidates would be Rs1,800, and for SC/ST candidates it would be Rs 900. There is no fee for girl candidates.
TEACHERS GATHER AT IIM-I FOR FACULTY DEVELOPMENT

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INDORE: Nearly 40 management teachers have gathered at Indian Institute of Management, Indore for its fifth edition of Faculty Development Programme (FDP) 2013 which aims at professional development of management teachers, researchers and practitioners.

It is a nine-week programme which started on April 22 and would conclude on June 28. The main focus of FDP is on upgrading the teaching, training, content development and research skills of participants. It has been designed as a specialised programme for career development of management faculties.

IIM-I claims that the programme would enable the participants to develop competence in general management, understand recent advances in management research and improve their way of teaching. It would also tell them about effective presentation techniques and behavioral skills to be an effective management faculty.

The programme is managed by faculty members from IIM as well as other experts from the industry and other institutions for an intensive exposure to research, writing, teaching, training and industry trends.

“The uniqueness of this FDP is that it has 65% of its participants from industry and allied services with faculties from management and engineering institutes. This shows the faith of industries in IIM-I’s capabilities. IIM-I will not only develop the capabilities and skill sets of faculties of management schools but also of industry population,” said coordinator of the programme Prashant Salve.

The participants have come from various states including Haryana, Maharashtra and several southern states. They are mainly management teachers, trainers, researchers employed in management schools, university departments, degree colleges, professional institutes, training centres of business enterprises and staff training institutes of central and state governments.
The Indian School of Business (ISB) on Friday stated 421 companies had made 798 offers to students of the class of 2013 in an integrated placements held across its Hyderabad and Mohali campuses.

Of a total of 762 students in the class, 741 students participated in the placement process, while 21 students opted out to start their own ventures, return to their companies or family businesses.

According to ISB, the number of companies participating and offers made this year has increased 21 per cent and 27 per cent respectively over last year. With the rolling placement still underway, and around five per cent of the class participating in various stages of the placement process, the number of offers is expected to increase. The process will conclude in May.

The technology sector was stated to have made the largest number of offers on campus. As many as 300 offers were made by S3 companies such as Apple, Cognizant Technology Solutions, Facebook, Google, HCL, Hewlett Packard, IBM, ITC Infotech, Microsoft, and Wipro Ltd, among others.

Consulting was the second largest recruiter, contributing 163 offers from around 30 companies, including AT Kearney, Accenture, Booz & Co, Boston Consulting Group, Deloitte, Ernst & Young, Global eProcure, KPMG, McKinsey & Company, Oliver Wyman, Parthenon and PwC.

In fact, consulting and sales and marketing were the two most preferred functional areas for the ISB graduates attracting 27 per cent and 21 per cent of students respectively. Recruiting companies for sales & marketing roles included Arvind Lifestyle Brands & Retail, Bharti Walmart, Britannia Industries, Dabur India, Hindustan Unilever, Reckitt Benckiser and Videocon Industries.

Women students, who comprise 29 per cent of the class, have done well both in terms of offers received and as roles. “A highlight of this year was the ‘Axis Bank – ISB Leadership Programme’, where the bank selected 12 women students to build a women leadership pipeline for their organisation,” ISB stated in a release.