Foreign Placement Offers Plummet at IITs

Mumbai: Job offers for global postings have plummeted at the elite Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs) this year. Days into the final placements which started on December 1, international offers made to students across the premier engineering colleges have fallen by as much as 77% in IIT Roorkee, around 51% in IIT Madras, 44% in IIT Kharagpur and 8% in IIT Guwahati.

IIT placement sources said that the companies' increased focus on the India story and reduced US/Europe profiles have led to a decline in the number of foreign offers. The uncertainty around visas post the Trump win in the US elections has added to this tilt.

"Most of the companies have very strong and well-entrenched operations in India, which is increasingly gaining prominence as a market. Why offer foreign postings when you can operate from India for the very same role?" said NP Padhy, professor-in-charge, training and placement at IIT Roorkee.

At IIT Roorkee, international offers till now have dropped to 7 from a high of 30 last year. "Microsoft, for instance, has made only one international offer this year, compared to 8-10 in earlier years. The overall number of offers (including domestic ones) extended by them, however, remain the same," added Padhy. Fuzzy Logix, which earlier hired for US openings, has also replaced international offers with domestic ones.

"Our drive at IITs this year is in keeping with our increased focus on R&D and engineering excellence as we move towards becoming a cloud and services organisation," a Microsoft spokesperson said in reply to an email query, without commenting on the decrease in international offers. However, other companies including Kharagpur confirmed the trend.

WorldQuant, Works Applications, Fuzzy Logix and are among recruiters that either cut down on international offers or not made them at all at certain campuses. US-based Google, which has in the past years been one of the top paymasters at IIT placements, has gone off-campus this year, contributing further to the decline in foreign postings.

IIT Madras received six international offers till Day 3 of placements compared to 13 in the same period the year before. IIT Guwahati got nine offers compared to 11 last year while at IIT BHU, there were three offers compared to four last year. IIT Kharagpur received nine foreign offers from the likes of Microsoft, Oracle, Sprinklr and NTT Communications, compared to 15-16 the year before, said Debashish Deb, chairman of the institute's Career Development Centre.

"The increased focus on India coupled with the uncertainty around visas are among the reasons behind this trend," said Deb. "Students are also increasingly realising that expenses are very high in foreign countries and some of the higher domestic packages are extremely attractive," he added.

"With Trump coming to power, there is a lack of clarity about the visa situation will pan out. There have been earlier instances of companies recruiting for international roles but having the student work in India for more than a year. Now, both the companies and the students prefer to play it safe," said an IIT placement team member.

An exception this year has been IIT Hyderabad where the number of international offers has reached 16, compared to 13 last year. B Venkatesham, faculty-in-charge for the training and placement cell at IIT Hyderabad, says it is largely because the institute made an active effort to woo Japanese companies including Yahoo Japan, SMS and Rakuten.

"Our international offers have all come from Japanese companies. We had no recruiters from US or Europe," Venkatesham said.

IIT Bombay, too, said that the institute had received more than 40 international offers till Day 3 of placements, approximately the same number as last year. As in the case of IIT Hyderabad, it said that Japanese companies had given a good number of international offers.
Day 4 of campus placements - 500 IIT-B students get jobs

http://www.hindustantimes.com/mumbai-news/day-4-of-campus-placements-500-iit-b-students-get-jobs/story-v8F9p6b0BC5gVTxuNYhON.html

Around 500 students of Indian Institute of Technology Bombay (IIT-B) bagged offers by Monday evening in the first phase of campus placements.

The daytime slot on the fourth day of placements saw around 50 students getting offers from companies such as Vedanta, Mahindra and Mahindra and Tata Consultancy Services (TCS) analytics. The pace of offers is slightly lower than last year, when around 550 offers were made at the end of the first slot on Day 4.

A number of students have been offered offshore positions by the US and Japanese firms.

Aditi Laddha, a student from IIT-B’s Computer Science and Engineering (CSE), received one of the top offers during the campus placements. The only women from the institute to land a US job at IIT-B during this year’s placements, she was selected for app-based aggregator Uber’s US offices, along with another student.
Microsoft and Oracle are the other companies which have reportedly offered US profiles this year. The placements season has also witnessed a rise in Japanese firms hiring students for positions in their home country. Murata, Yahoo Japan and Rakuten Inc. are some of the top recruiters visiting IIT-B this year.

**Jayalalithaa’s death: IIT Madras defers campus placements to December 8**

Last year, too, the institute had suspended placements owing to Chennai floods. It was later held on January 6-16, 2016

Following the demise of Tamil Nadu Chief Minister J Jayalalithaa’s late Monday evening, the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Madras Tuesday suspended the ongoing campus placements. The training and placements cell advisor at IIT Madras, Manu Santhanam, said the placements will resume on December 8.

Last year, too, the institute had suspended placements owing to Chennai floods. It was later held on January 6-16, 2016. “Ever since the news of Jayalalithaa suffering a cardiac arrest broke, firms were apprehensive to travel to the campus. There was confusion and they were calling us to find whether travelling to the campus is safe or not,” Santhanam said.

The placements in the campus began on December 1 and about 400 students have already been recruited. This year, Microsoft and Oracle have made the highest offers.

While some Public Sector Undertakings have already made job offers in pre-placements, IIT Madras expects Coal India, ONGC, HPCL, Midhani (Miniratna) and BEL to visit the campus.

Soon after the former chief minister’s death, the Tamil Nadu government declared three-day holiday for all educational institutions. IIT Madras has also cancelled classes for the next three days.

**IITS ASPIRE TO GO GLOBAL, SEEK MONIES**

To catapult the Indian Institutes of technology (IITs) into the elite club of top 100 universities globally, the government may have to cough up funds totalling over Rs 21,000 crore, if proposals on the same — submitted by the seven older IITs — get approved.

Directors of the seven older IITs -- Delhi, Bombay, Madras, Kanpur, Kharagpur, Roorkee, and Guwahati -- met officials from the Ministry of Human Resource Development (MHRD) and submitted their proposals. They projected a cumulative investment of over Rs 21,000 crore to ramp up their infrastructure and bring it on a par with top foreign universities, to improve their international outlook, faculty-student ratio as well as their research output. For instance, while IIT Delhi submitted a proposal for Rs 2,400 crore, IIT Bombay’s investment proposal is over Rs 2,200 crore. These are part of MHRD’s project “Vishwajeet,” which was approved in-principle by the IIT Council in August 2016 and proposed specific interventions for strengthening the seven IITs to help them to come up into the top 100 world rankings.

While brand IIT is recognised globally, it has not yet managed to break into the top 100 league. For instance, in the QS World University Rankings 2016, the IITs had a poor show, with Delhi at 185, Bombay at 219, Madras at 249, Kanpur at 302, Kharagpur at 313, Roorkee at 399 and Guwahati at 481-490.

Academicians and experts from IITs have said repeatedly that IITs and Indian universities in general are handicapped in
some parameters like international faculty ratio, international student ratio and student-to-faculty ratio.

According to an IIT director, who spoke on condition of anonymity, the proposals submitted involve short-term and long-term goals to get into the top 100, in the next three to four years. “For that, we have identified where IITs need to improve quickly, which involve for instance, international students and faculty and research publications. The long-term goals include infrastructure. If you want to get international faculty, for example, you need to provide proper facilities in terms of accommodation. We will need to construct faculty housing and new hostels for international students. We also need to build new department complexes, new infrastructure for research, and all these cost quite a lot,” the IIT director told Bangalore Mirror.

Another director, who did not want to be named, said the IITs are also looking at improving their ‘perception’. “We want more foreigners to visit the campuses and when they do so, they should not go back with a negative impression. Hence, we need to improve many aspects internally. We currently score zero marks for foreign students and faculty. We plan to make visits abroad, twice a year, to all the Ivy league schools and try to recruit non-Indians as faculty. This will also solve our faculty problem. One of the reasons why we are ranked low is due to our faculty-student ratio. According to these rankings, if this ratio is above 1:15, institutes get zero points for it,” said the director.

At the August IIT Council meeting, it approved in-principle, the proposal for increasing the overall students’ strength in the IITs to one lakh by the year 2020 and ‘desired’ all IITs to examine the possibility of increasing the annual intake in UG, PG and PhD programmes, and allowing for non-resident students. Strategies for filling up vacancies, discussed at the meeting, included campus recruitment of PhD students from IITs and recruitment of foreign faculty. “The Council noted with concern the large number of faculty vacancies and directed all IITs to launch a drive to identify and recruit high quality faculty to fill them up. The Council has also recommended a proposal to count five PhD students being equal to one faculty member — for the purpose of calculating faculty-student ratio and desired that orders to this effect may be issued immediately,” said an MHRD official.

IIT alumni centres were requested to help in identifying suitable foreign students, who were completing PhD in “reputed universities, working on the areas relevant to IITs.” “Based on this database, the process of recruitment of foreign faculty should be taken up. It shall be ensured that the process is made simple and transparent facilitating recruitment in one central location,” the MHRD release had said.

**Prof Chaturvedi set to be director of IITRoorkee**


NEW DELHI: President Pranab Mukherjee on Monday cleared the name of professor AK Chaturvedi as the director of IITRoorkee, sources said. Chaturvedi is the deputy director of IITKanpur. The position had been lying vacant for two months. Sources said pending decisions were likely to be fast tracked after Chaturvedi takes charge. Improving IITRoorkee global ranking and ushering in cashless system in the institution will top the agenda for the new director.
Lower number of faculty adversely affects world rankings because of bad student-teacher ratio, say officials

ITIs, NITs have just 50% teaching staff

DNA ND 06.12.2016 P-17

New Delhi: The most premier technical institutions in the country — Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs) and National Institutes of Technology (NITs) are functioning with only half the sanctioned faculty members, government revealed in Lok Sabha on Monday.

Over 2,000 faculty positions are vacant in IITs, and over 3,000 in NITs, across the country against the sanctioned strength of over 5,000 for both, HRD Ministry said, while answering a question on the number of faculty positions vacant in IITs, NITs and Indian Institutes of Management (IIMs).

The ministry said that despite the large number of vacant faculty positions, there is “no affect on studies in these institutions.” While officials at these institutes agree with the fact that faculty shortage does not affect the daily functioning of the institute, they however claim that their rankings go down because of bad student-teacher ratio.

According to the data provided by the ministry, IITs have 2,071 faculty positions, out of which 383 are currently vacant. A senior official at IIT Delhi said, “Lesser number of faculty members affect our rankings as we get scored very less in the student-teacher ratio section. When the government itself is trying to promote rankings of IITs through project VISHWAJEET, vacant faculty positions is a hindrance to this.” VISHWAJEET is a government scheme of HRD Ministry to improve facilities at IITs, to up their international rankings.

“There is however no effect in our daily routine, as guest faculty and post-doc researchers make up for it. But it is extremely important that the vacancies get filled up fast,” he added. IITs have traditionally including only faculty members as academic staff, the student teacher ratio, not including post-docs and researchers.

In order to fill up the vacancies, the government is now relaxing norms for foreign faculty in institutions here. Government has launched Global Initiative for Academic Networks to enable foreign faculty to teach some courses in the higher educational institutions. “Steps such as outstanding young faculty awards, mobility of faculty from one institute to another and pay parity to faculty have also been taken to attract best faculty in these institutions. The institution is sending invitations through search cum selection procedures to alumni, scientists, faculty,” HRD ministry said.

RELAXING NORMS

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“Steps such as outstanding young faculty awards, mobility of faculty from one institute to another and pay parity to faculty have also been taken to attract best faculty in these Institutions. A senior official at HRD Ministry said.

Business Line ND 06.12.2016 P-17

’re not new ITIs, IIMs on anvil

The government is not contemplating opening of any new Indian Institute of Technology (IITs) and Indian Institutes of Management (IIMs), the Lok Sabha was informed on Monday. Union Minister of State for Human Resource Development Mahendra Nath Pandey made a statement in this regard when asked whether the government is aware that some states have sent proposals for setting up IITs and IIMs.

Pioneer ND 06.12.2016 P-05

ACCREDITATION CENTRES TO COME UP AT IITs, IIMs

New Delhi: The Centre plans to create accreditation centres in the IITs and IIMs, the HRD Ministry has said. Replying to question in the Lok Sabha, Minister of State HRD Mahendra Nath Pandey said the Government has a proposal in this regard to “speed up” the accreditation process.
आईआईटी में सार्क्ट देशों के छात्रों को फीस में छूट बंद

पत्रिका व्युत्पन्न नेटवर्क

राजस्थान पारितिका ND 06.12.2016 P-01

नई दिल्ली. इंडियन स्टेट्स यूनिवर्सिटी ऑफ टेक्नोलॉजी (आईआईटी) ने दसंबर एफीयाइया केंद्रीय सहयोग समिति (सार्क्ट) देशों के छात्रों को टूटूफीस में दी जा रही 50 प्रतिशत फीस घटने का खुलने करने का आयोजन तिलकाने है। इस फीस की अनुपस्थिति के बाद एफीयाइया को छुट्टी देने संपन्न 2,000 दान देते हैं, जबकि, अन्य विद्यार्थी छात्र स्लानना 4,000 दान देते हैं।

सत्र 2017-18 से सभी विदेशी छात्रों के लिए एक समान

शृंखला संरचना लागू हो जाएगी। सार्क्ट देशों के छात्रों को भी अन्य विदेशी छात्रों के समान 6 लाख रूपए प्रतिवर्ष देना होगा। वर्तमान में सार्क्ट देशों के छात्रों को रायट करने के बाद आईआईटी की सलाना 2,000 दान देते हैं, जबकि अन्य विदेशी छात्र स्लानना 4,000 दान देते हैं।

नव भारत टाइम्स ND 06.12.2016 P-06

आईआईटी : इस बार स्टार्टअप कंपनियां कम

20 दिसंबर तक चलेगा प्लेसमेंट का पहला फेज

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नई दिल्ली : आईआईटी ने 20 दिसंबर तक प्लेसमेंट के लिए एक स्टार्टअप कंपनियों की सहायता की। इन स्टार्टअप कंपनियों के बीच कंपनियों की पहली चर्चा की जायेगी। इन स्टार्टअप कंपनियों के प्रमुखों की अनुसन्धान भी होगा। एक स्टार्टअप कंपनी का प्रमुख कम से कम 100 स्क्रिप्ट बुल्ब करता है। इन स्टार्टअप कंपनियों के प्रमुखों के प्रति आईआईटी की सहायता की जाएगी।

इसके अलावा, आईआईटी ने इस स्टार्टअप समिति के प्रमुखों की सहायता की। इन स्टार्टअप कंपनियों के प्रमुखों के प्रति आईआईटी की सहायता की जाएगी।

इन स्टार्टअप कंपनियों के प्रमुखों की सहायता की। इससे आईआईटी की सहायता की जाएगी।

इस स्टार्टअप कंपनियों के प्रमुखों की सहायता की। इन स्टार्टअप कंपनियों के प्रमुखों की सहायता की।