After MCI, Niti Aayog to work on restructuring of UGC, AICTE

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Government think tank Niti Aayog, which is at present working on restricting the Medical Council of India (MCI), has also been entrusted with the task of preparing a similar road map for the UGC and the AICTE.

A committee headed by the Vice Chairman of the Aayog, Arvind Panagariya, is working on restructuring of the MCI in view of the poor regulation of medical education by the body. “Prime Minister’s Office (PMO) has directed Niti Aayog to also work on restructuring the University Grants Commission (UGC), the All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) as well a board looking after Homeopathy and Ayurvedic education in the country,” a senior government official said.

This is on the same lines as that of the restructuring strategy for the MCI, he added. “The general consensus is that these organisation are needed to be made more relevant to the changing times today. Also it is felt that there is a need to make them more performance-oriented so that the quality of education also improves,” the official said.

On MCI, the panel has firmed up the view that the MCI should be scrapped to increase the number of medical colleges in the country for producing more doctors in view of growing demand for healthcare services, another official source said.

Besides, Panagariya, Prime Minister’s additional Principal Secretary P K Mishra, Niti Aayog CEO Amitabh Kant and Union Health Secretary are also on board of the committee to look into the issue of poor regulation of medical education by MCI.

The committee has proposed to set up an altogether new body with three pronged approach – career, enterprise and ethics. Earlier this year, a Parliamentary committee had called for revamping the MCI saying, it has failed in its role as a regulator which has led to a downfall in India’s medical education system.

The committee even asked the government to exercise its constitutional authority and take decisive action to restructure and revamp the regulatory system of medical education and practice.
73 seats vacant at end of counselling in IITs

1518 Vacancies In NITs; Few Takers For IIT-BHU

NOT POPULAR CHOICE?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>College</th>
<th>Total Seats</th>
<th>Accepted Seats</th>
<th>Vacancies</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>IITs</td>
<td>9,560</td>
<td>9,587</td>
<td>73</td>
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<tr>
<td>ISM</td>
<td>912</td>
<td>889</td>
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<td>NITs</td>
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<td>IIITs</td>
<td>2,526</td>
<td>2,119</td>
<td>407</td>
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<tr>
<td>GFTIs</td>
<td>3,784</td>
<td>2,610</td>
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New Delhi: At the end of this year’s joint counselling for IITs/NITs/IITs/IIITs and other government-funded technical institutes, only 73 vacancies are left in IITs, bulk of them in IIT-BHU.

In case of NITs (National Institutes of Technology), there are 1,518 vacancies. An HRD source said most of the vacancies are part of state quotas. However, huge vacancies in two prominent NITs—Jalandhar and Surat—have become a cause of concern. In NIT-Surat, there are still 115 seats while the one in Jalandhar has 116 vacant seats. So both these NITs have over 10% seats waiting to be filled.

Vacancies in many NITs in northeast are being ascribed to reluctance of students from other parts of country to join.

Joint Seat Allocation Authority (JoSAA) found that the 38 seats still vacant in IIT-BHU belong to branches that are no longer lucrative. Most of the first generation IITs—Bombay, Madras, Kharagpur, Delhi and Kanpur—are not left with any vacancy.

Indian School of Mines (ISM), Dhanbad, which recently made it to the prestigious IIT family, has done well with only 23 vacancies left out of total 912 seats.

In case of 20 IITs (Indian Institutes of Technology) run on public-private mode, 2,119 out of 2,526 total seats have been filled.

Most worrying is the state of 18 institutes that fall under the category of Government-funded Technical Institutes (GFTIs). Of the 3,784 seats, only 2,610 have been filled.

Sources said the government might suggest a round of spot counselling to fill the vacancies.

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Make room for freshers, IIT-B tells 350 researchers

Mumbai: The Indian Institute of Technology-Bombay has asked 350 post-doctoral fellows and Research Associates (RAs) to vacate their rooms to make space for the new batch of students who will join the institute this academic year.

The institute’s student affairs dean, Soumyo Mukherji, recently sent an email to faculty and other staff explaining why these students have been asked to move out.

The mail says no accommodation will be provided to RAs, post-doctoral fellows (PDFs), some grades of teachers and candidates sponsored by other institutes or corporate houses.

Mukherji said hostel rooms are currently accommodating double the number of students they were meant for and if students don’t vacate rooms, there will be no space to house the new entrants.

“Let us reign in the number of students we admit or at least commit hostel accommodation to,” the letter read.

The research scholars, however, said this puts them in a difficult situation, as they only recently submitted their thesis and finished the process of VIVA.

“We have at least another six months left to publish our research papers and the institute is asking us to vacate our hostel rooms now,” said a student. They are also worried about finding alternate accommodation in Mumbai—where rent is very high.

Students said the management has not directly informed them about the decision, but wardens and other staff are being asked to persuade students to vacate the campus.

The IIT-B campus has residential space for 6,007 students, but had 10,650 students on roll in January 2016. “We are asking students to make way for new entrants and stop occupying space indefinitely,” Mukherji said.

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Amar Ujala ND 27.07.2016 P-16

1150 स्टूडेंट्स ने उड़ाए 2100 से अधिक प्लेन

कानपुर में आईआईटीयंस ने उड़ा टास्क का पेपर प्लेन

कानपुर: आईआईटीयंस कानपुर में मंगलवार का नवजात भ्रष्ट यथार्थ था। हाल ही में अंडर ब्रेकुट और फर्स्ट ब्रेकुट कार्यक्रम में एडवर्ड्स लिंच आईआईटीयंस ने एकसाथ 2100 से अधिक प्लेन हटाकर फैलाया खिड़की करने का निर्देश दिया है। इसका बीडिंग मिनीट कई खिड़कियाँ में भगा जाएगा। कैसला था अंडरफास्ट ब्रेकुट के लाइट डी दा जब वह श्रेष्ठ हो गई, 1150 लोगों ने शिक्षा की।

पेपर के ताबाय उड़ने का टास्क होगा। स्टूडेंट्स ने दो प्लेन उड़ने वाले 2100 की बजाए 2100 से अधिक प्लेन उड़ा लिया। इससे यह स्टूडेंट्स को विभिन्न ब्रेकुट पर अपने होटल के लिए वाहन मिल जाएगा। दूसरी फैक्ट में स्टूडेंट्स ने अनुभव किए थे कि आईआईटीयंस के छात्रों को स्टूडेंट्स का कार्यक्रम पकड़ा जाता है। कैसला उड़ने और फैलाया खिड़की को लिया जा रहा है।
UNDER PMO SCRUTINY

World Class Institutes’ Plan Passed on to Law Ministry

Plan for 10 public & 10 pvt institutions to emerge as world-class teaching and research structures

— Anubhuti Vishnoi
@timesgroup.com

New Delhi: Under close PMO scrutiny, the Human Resources Development (HRD) ministry’s proposed regulations for setting up world class institutes have been referred to the Law ministry for opinion on their feasibility under current laws. Sharp differences over the regulations with the Prime Minister Office had preceded Smriti Irani’s sudden exit from ministry.

The Prakash Javadekar-led HRD ministry is learnt to have referred the draft regulations to the Law ministry seeking clarity on whether such regulations can be formulated at all under provisions available in Section 26 of the University Grants Commission Act, 1956. Section 26 of the Act empowers UGC to define the minimum standards of instruction for grant of degree by any University and for regulating the maintenance of standards and the co-ordination of work of facilities in Universities.

The regulations aim at creating a class of degree granting ‘world class institutes’ as a special category under deemed universities, but governed by a separate set of regulations. Tentatively named the UGC (Declaration of Educational Institutions as World Class Institutions) Guidelines—these were to create an “enabling regulatory architecture” for 10 public and 10 private institutions to emerge as world-class teaching and research institutions—a budget announcement made by Finance Minister Arun Jaitley this year.

The regulations, however, ran into trouble with the PMO with the latter pushing for greater autonomy and a relaxed regulatory regime allowing institutes freedom to frame own course structure and duration, easing away of penalty clauses and allowing transferring of Letters of Intent from one sponsoring body to another. As per a review of the HRD ministry carried out by the PMO earlier this year, the regulations for the world class institutes were to be readied by August.

Within days of Prakash Javadekar replacing Smriti Irani, the HRD ministry is learnt to have agreed to give in to the PMO on most of the prickly issues, including significantly bringing down the corpus amount from ₹1,000 crore.