JEE results out, 2 from Delhi zone among top 3

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Mumbai: IIT-Delhi zone has emerged with two of the top three qualifiers in this year’s JEE (Main), the results for which were announced on Wednesday.

While Satvat Jagwani from Satna in MP, who appeared from the Kanpur zone, bagged the All-India Rank (AIR) 1, with a score of 469 of 504, Janak Agrawal and Mukesh Pareekh, both from Indore (Delhi zone), got AIR 2 and AIR 3, respectively.

IIT-Bombay zone, which had slipped to the third position last year, took the No. 1 position this year while other top zones — IIT-Madras and IIT-Delhi — recorded a steep fall in the number of qualifying candidates.

More than 26,456 or 22% of the 1.17 lakh students who appeared for the exams across the country qualified for 10,000-odd IIT seats. Last year, around 27,172 or 20% of the 1.3 lakh students had made it to the general merit list. Around 11% of the total students who have qualified for IITs are girls.

This year, successful candidates can either fall in the Top 20 percentile of their respective boards or score 75% and above in their Class XII exams, to be eligible for the IIT seat, said an IIT-Bombay official.

IITs will conduct a joint seat allocation process along with the NITs this year for the first time. The detailed procedure will be release by IIT-Bombay soon. Students can access their individual results only on Thursday.

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Marginal rise in no. of girls qualifying JEE

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Mumbai: Of the 3,049 girls who passed for JEE (Main) this year, Indore’s Krati Tiwari with AIR 47, is the topper. The number of girls qualifying in the exam saw a marginal rise from the previous year’s 3,009. OBC topper Majji Sandeep Kumar from Vizianagaram also got an AIR of 10. Chinmaya Sahoo from Pune is the topper in the OBC and disabled category.

The IIT-Madras zone, home to the coaching hub in Andhra Pradesh, has bagged five of the Top 10 merit ranks in the country. The region, which had 50 of the Top 100 rank-holders last year, saw only 28 students fall in the top list this year. The Delhi region, which had the maximum succeeding candidates last year, saw a drop in the numbers—from 6,528 to 4,511—this year.

Bharat Khandelwal, with an AIR 5, is the topper in the IIT-Bombay zone. He managed a score of 440 in the test.

For the full report, log on to www.timesofindia.com
JEE results: Kota comes out on top again


KOTA: The billboards and hoardings in every city advertise electronic items, e-retail products and branded garments. But Kota is an exception. Here, at the busiest intersections, either toppers of JEE exam or popular faculties of different coaching institutes greet you.

If one stands at the aerodrome or Talwandi intersection and looks around, he finds huge billboards - all publicising the 'successful coaching majors' of the city. You will barely find an advertisement of any popular product in these areas. The latest addition is a poster of Satvat Jagwani, a student whose coaching institute has claimed that he would be securing All India Rank 1 in JEE results to be announced on Thursday. Such an announcement before the results drew much attention of the students, onlookers and commuters.

Similarly, other coaching majors are following a similar line. They are now ensuring that the student who was sure of coming in the merit list features in their outdoor advertisements so that others cannot rope him/her in. The poster war is only a reflection of the ongoing cut-throat competition between the six major coaching institutes.

They are using every available space in the city to put up billboards publicising their popular teachers and successful students.

"The coaching institutes have disrupted the demand and supply equilibrium. The space for outdoor advertising has become so expensive that only coaching majors can afford it. There are some places which are booked for 3-5 years in advance at an inflated price," said Subhash Nagoria, an outdoor advertising consultant based in Kota. Other than public spaces, the private places like corner houses, residential buildings and even private rent out their space to these coaching institutes.

"The coaching institutes look for a space which has a greater visibility. It is generally believed that students and parents come to Kota with a blank mind. Their decision on a coaching institute is influenced by these posters and banners featuring successful students," said Subhash Sharma, a local agent who hunts for private properties to sell space to coaching institutes.
HRD minister chairs top education panel

NITIN MAHAJAN
NEW DELHI, JUNE 17

The Central Advisory Board of Education (CABE) is chaired by the HRD minister, while the two MoS will act as vice-chairpersons with representatives of several ministries, departments, state governments and officials as special invitees to the body. Other vice-chancellors of universities and heads of institutions of national importance nominated to the body are Jawahar Kaul, VC, Uttarakhand University, Chandreka Padia, chairperson, IIAS, Indrani Manna, director, IIT-Kanpur; Sudhir K Jain, director, IIT-Gandhinagar; Sushil Vachani, director, IIM-Bangalore; Geetha Ball, chairman, NIT-Bhopal and L.K. Bhat, director, MNT Jaipur; Manish Saharwal of Team Lease India and Sanjeev Bikhchandani from Entrepreneur, Info Edge India Ltd have been nominated to represent industry with interest in education. Among other who have been nominated are Ramji Raghvan, chairman, Agastya International Foundation and Vijay Bhattrak, chairman, board of governors, IIT-Delhi.

Indumathi Rao, vice-chairperson, National Bal Bhawan, Joram Beg, ex-director, higher & technical education, government of Arunachal Pradesh, Anjali Deshpande, founder secretay DRISHTI Stree Adhyayan Probodhan Kendra, Pune and M.K. Sridhar, professor at Canara Bank School of Management Studies (CBSMS), Bengaluru, have also been nominated to the body. Nominees representing school education are Vinnak Loyani, founder of PRIVAAR Organisation and Dileepr Ranjekar, CEO, Azim Premji Foundation. Other nominees include Manju Singh, media professional and actress, Pankaj Trimbak Chande, ex-V-C, Uttarakhand Sanskrit University, Hardwar, Naheed Abidi, Padma Shri, literature & education. While Lutfi Moghul, secretary, Maharashtra Cosmopolitan Education Society, Pune, is the nominee representing minority educational institutions, Dhirendra Nath Bezbahara is the media representative on the body.

Swarup Sampat, V-C of Bengal univ get CABE berths

HRD Ministry nominated 18 members to the top education advisory body

RUHI TEWARI
NEW DELHI, JUNE 17

The newly-constituted Central Advisory Board of Education (CABE) — the highest advisory body to guide Centre and state governments on education — has an interesting mix of nominated members, from the wife of a BJP MP to a top member of the Ramakrishna Mission, director of a research foundation consisting of top BJP leaders and a former vice-chancellor of a Sanskrit University.

CABE was re-constituted by the Smriti Irani-led Human Resource Development Ministry on June 11, with 18 members from different fields, apart from ex-officio members, various union ministers and vice-chancellors of different universities.

Among the two nominees representing “creative arts” is actress Swarup Sampat. Incidentally, Sampat is married to BJP MP from Gujarat and actor Paresh Rawal. Sampat, a former Miss India, has done her PhD in Education from the University of Worcester.

Swami Atmapriyananda, vice-Chancellor, Ramakrishna Mission Vivekananda University, Belur Math, is yet another nominated member in the category of “eminent academicians”. Prime Minister Narendra Modi is a known follower of the Ramakrishna Mission sect and has recently visited the Dhaka R K Mission during his Bangladesh visit. He had also travelled to the Belur Math in May this year.

Atmapriyananda's interests include Vivekananda's educational vision for character building, Yoga-Vedanta in relation to modern science, consciousness studies, as taught in the Upanishads, and the synthesis of four main paths of Yoga as taught by Swami Vivekananda and the Bhagavad Gita.

Anirban Ganguly, director, Shyama Prasad Mookerjee Research Foundation is also in the list of members under eminent academicians. Union Finance Minister Arun Jaitley is the chairperson of the foundation, whose organisation includes other BJP leaders like Shyam Jaju and Arun Singh. Among nominees representing languages is Pankaj Trimbak Chande, former V-C, Uttarakhand Sanskrit University, Hardwar, as well as Naheed Abidi, a Padma Shri awardee. The CABE's mandate includes reviewing the progress of education regularly, advising the government on any matter related to education, as well as reviewing the national policy on education.
For the first time, researchers have been successful in bringing about spontaneous chemical reactions between two different varieties of carbon nanotubes without using any chemicals. In fact, a simple mechanical grinding of the carbon nanotubes with a mortar and pestle was all that was required to induce chemical reactions. The end result was the production of valuable graphene nanoribbons.

Graphene nanoribbons are being increasingly used in composite materials.

To achieve this, carbon nanotubes containing two different chemical additives — carboxyl groups and hydroxyl groups — were chosen for the study. When ground for about 20 minutes, the additives reacted with one another and unzipped the nanotubes to form one atomic layer thin graphene nanoribbons. The reaction of the two different chemical additives is exothermic in nature and the heat released ultimately unzips the nanotubes.

To be certain, the researchers repeated the experiment using various ratios of the two varieties of carbon nanotubes and in many conditions — standard lab conditions, vacuum, in open air and at variable humidity, temperatures, times and seasons.

“Water is formed in this reaction, and its detection during the process of grinding proves the chemical reaction. Mechano-chemistry was proven this way,” said Prof. T. Pradeep of the Department of Chemistry, IIT Madras who along with Prof. Pulickel M. Ajayan of the Department of Material Sciences and Nano Engineering, Rice University, Houston undertook this novel study. Prof. Ajayan is also a distinguished visiting professor at IIT Madras. The results of the study were published on June 16 in the journal Nature Communications.

Till date, there has not been any reported instance of graphene nanoribbons being formed by grinding the carbon nanotubes and in the complete absence of other chemicals. “This opens up the possibility of producing novel nanostructured products with specific properties by mechanical agitation,” Prof. Pradeep said.

The next step is to generalise this in all kinds of nanosystems. The teams are looking at such chemistry with other functionalised carbon nanotubes. Applications of such chemically synthesised nanoribbons remain to be explored.

“Identification of the process as mechanochemistry was our contribution,” he said. “To prove this, we detected the release of water by mass spectrometry. A combination of novel chemistry and modified instrumentation allowed us to observe this.”

Prof. Ajayan had observed the disappearance of carbon nanotubes upon grinding and shared this information with Prof. Pradeep.

“I suggested that mechano-chemistry might be the reason. I had just come back after a class which dealt with triboluminescence, the emergence of luminescence by grinding. I showed him that and told him that chemical reactions can happen similarly. Maybe we could detect water to prove this mechano-chemistry. That is how this started,” Prof. Pradeep recalled.
IIT-Kgp to get hospital on campus by 2017


KOLKATA: After 10 years of intense debate, IIT-Kharagpur has finally received the permission to build a super-specialty hospital on its campus. Once built, Kharagpur will be the first IIT to have its own hospital. The clearance from the health ministry also cleared the decade-old hurdle for IIT-Kharagpur to start specialized medical courses.

The hospital-cum-medical school, named Dr BC Roy Institute of Medical Science and Research, will be open to public. It is likely to get operational within 26 months. L&T will build the hospital while healthcare consultancy PSU HSCC will build the infrastructure. AIIMS will design the medical courses. There will be 400 beds in the first phase. Another 750 beds will be added gradually. The Centre has released Rs 230 crore for the first phase.

The medical college will award MBBS, MD, MS and DM degrees. But the focus will be on research — especially in biomedical, clinical and translational areas. Drug design and delivery and a biomedical innovation unit are other key focus areas, say sources. The institute's bio-engineering faculty is already working on technology like remote diagnostics, telemedicine and teleradiology.

"The hospital will be run by doctors, both on the academic and clinical sides, and IIT-Kharagpur's own technology and science lineage will be woven in as best as possible to give this hospital an edge. A large chunk of activities will be research-based and there will be collaborative tie-ups with various departments," said IIT-Kharagpur director Partha Pratim Chakraborty.

"Kharagpur has a state-run subdivisional hospital and there is a state general hospital at Midnapore. Other than this, very little state-backed healthcare is available in the region. Private medical facilities have mushroomed but the region needs a super-specialty facility. We hope the new hospital will plug the gap," Chakraborty added.

IIM-A begins hiring admin staff for IIM-N


Nagpur: After lining up admission process of IIM-Nagpur, its mentor IIM-Ahmedabad has started recruitment drive to fill up administrative posts with a view to commence operations of the new institute from next month.

Sources from IIM-N said that IIM-A published advertisements for four posts on various websites. The posts include associate (general administration, purchase), programme office in-charge, associate (IT and e-knowledge centre) and in-charge of field study centre. The aspirants have been asked to mail their resume at staffrecruit@iimnagpur.ac.in. IIM-A has already appointed Lt Col (Retd) Makarand Alur as project administrator for setting up an administrative section for IIM-N from the makeshift premises at Visvesvaraya National Institute of Technology (VNIT).

The admissions are going on in full swing through specially set up 'coordination cell' on IIM-A premises. Senior faculty Pradyumna Khokle however refused to share details stating that the process was underway and they will upload details on IIM-N website - www.iimnagpur.ac.in.

"The classes would begin as per the schedule posted on the website along with other details," said Khokle, who has specialization in organisational behaviour.
Ajay Pandey, senior faculty and dean (programmes) is his partner in the cell that will look after admissions to first batch of 'Post Graduate Programme (PGP)' and also appointment of faculty at IIM-N.

Deliberating on appointments, sources added that for the post of associates, programme office in-charge and in-charge of field study centre, graduates in any discipline can apply but work experience differs for each of them. For associate (IT and e-knowledge centre), graduation or post graduation in IT related courses is a must with relevant experience of at least a decade.

The ministry of human resources development (MHRD) had specifically told IIM-A to bear operational cost of setting up infrastructure and faculty at IIM-N for three years, which would be compensated later from grants allotted to the new institutions.

Sources said as a result of buzz that IIM-N would be mentored by IIM-A, India's premier management education institute that found its name in global rankings, there was an overwhelming response with about 1,857 aspirants applying for just 60 seats of PGP's first batch. In fact, Nagpur is only IIM among other five that were allotted last year to commence operations from next month, primarily due to immaculate planning by the IIM-A authorities.

Even the cut-off of CAT percentile is expected to be high, between 92% and 95% due to association with IIM-A. Except sprawling campus, the students of IIM-N would be getting everything of IIM-A, right from faculty to project work to teaching methodology that are regular feature at Ahmedabad. About 30 lecturers from India's premier institution were expected to visit city to conduct over 400 sessions with IIM-N students, sources informed.

**IIM-L launches website of IIM-Sirmaur**


LUCKNOW: The Indian Institute of Management-Lucknow, a mentor to IIM Sirmaur, Himachal Pradesh, on Wednesday launched the IIM Sirmaur website.

With this, the online admission process for PGP in Management course at IIM-Sirmaur has begun.

The director of IIM-L is the mentoring director for IIM-Sirmaur. The batch size at IIM- Sirmaur will be of 60 students.

Prof Bharat Bhasker, who is heading the task force committee for IIM-Sirmaur, said candidates who have applied for the new IIM at the time of CAT-2014 and have qualified the test have already been interviewed. Interested candidates can register online at the IIM- Sirmaur website, the link to which is available on the IIM-L website.

Once registrations close on June 27, a merit list will be prepared. Candidates should meet the CAT-2014 percentile. IIM-Sirmaur will use the written ability test and personal interview scores provided by IIM-Udaipur, which has coordinated the admission process for the new IIMs.

Of the 60 seats, 28 are for general students, 16 for non-creamy OBC, nine for SC and five for ST.

The academic session at IIM-Sirmaur will begin from August. Its temporary campus will be at Himachal Institute of Technology.
IIM-L in the past has successfully mentored two other IIMs - IIM Rohtak and IIM Kashipur.

**Honour for ex-IISc chief, Singapore educationist**


MANGALURU: Goverdhan Mehta, former director of IISc, Bengaluru, and industrialist Shashi Kiran Shetty of Mumbai and eminent educationist B V R Chowdari of Singapore will receive the honorary doctorate degrees at the 33rd annual convocation of Mangalore University.

The event will be held at Mangalagangothri campus on Wednesday.

In addition, a total of 1,315 candidates out of 23,385 candidates passed will receive their degrees in person at the event and rest in absentia.

Out of the 1,315 candidates, 88 candidates will receive their PhD degrees (arts -11, science - 63, commerce - 9 and education - 5).

The convocation will also see governor Vajubhai Rudabhai Vala award 37 gold medals and 63 cash prizes. In all, 57 rank holders (postgraduate 40/undergraduate -17: including 30 in science and technology; 14 in arts, nine in commerce; three in education and one in postgraduate diploma will be awarded.

Vice-chancellor K Byrappa said that out of 34,627 candidates who appeared for examination, 23,385 (67.53%) passed.

As far as PG courses are concerned, out of 4,829 candidates appeared, 4,579 (94.82%) passed and out of 29,708 UG students who appeared, 18,716 (63%) passed, and the two PG diploma candidates who appeared for the examinations passed (100%). Out of 4,579 PG students who passed, boys accounted for 1,610 (35.16%) and girls represented 2,969 (64.84 %).

Similarly at UG level, of 18,716 candidates who passed, 6,497 (34.71%) were boys and the rest 12,219 (65.29%) were girls.

As far as PG diploma examinations were concerned, both candidates were girls. With regard to gender composition of 23,385 candidates who passed, 8,155 (34.87%) were boys and 15,230 (65.13%) were girls.

As far examinations is concerned, out of 23,297 (except PhD) candidates passed, 7,932 (34.05%) secured distinction, and 9,118 (39.14%) first class. Governor Vajubhai Vala will preside over the convocation at the university.
Smriti Irani's degrees should be verified: PM Modi's brother Prahlad


Ghaziabad: Prime Minister Narendra Modi’s younger brother Prahlad on Wednesday said educational qualifications of Human Resources Development Minister Smriti Irani should be verified as being done in the case of former Delhi law minister Jitender Singh Tomar.

Prahlad, vice-president of All India Fair Price Shop Dealers' Federation (AIFPSDF), said this while interacting with reporters.

"Just as degrees of AAP MLA and former Delhi minister Jitender Singh Tomar are being verified, a probe should be carried out into Union HRD Minister Smriti Irani’s degrees," he said.

AAP and Congress have been demanding the Centre to probe the charges of false educational qualification against Smriti.

When asked about the row over help to tainted former IPL commissioner Lalit Modi by Union Minister Sushma Swaraj for travel documents, Prahlad said it was done on "humanitarian" grounds and the issue should not be unnecessarily hyped.

On the issue of blackmoney stashed abroad, he said, "The Central government is making all efforts. Blackmoney stashed in India is far more than that in foreign countries."

Suggesting that LPG cylinders should be supplied through ration shops, the AIFPSDF vice-president said, "Just as grocery is distributed from ration shops, LPG cylinders should also be supplied through them so that the income of such dealers increases and corruption gets checked."