IIT-D announces special meeting with HRD ministry

VARUN BIDHURI

NEW DELHI: A day after Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Delhi rejected the entrance exam format announced by human resource development minister Kapil Sibal on 28 May, it announced a special meeting of the IIT Council on 27 June with the ministry to address the concerns of students, sources in the IIT. Apparently, they want the ball to be in the ministry’s court and that they would react according to the situation.

‘We are very clear about our stance and as far as preparations for Wednesday’s meeting is concerned we can only comment on that once we would know what the ministry wants to say,’ said the source.

When contacted IIT-D, Deputy Director Ishtiaque said, ‘I’m not aware of anything.’ But he added IIT-D is not happy with the 2013 changes. He also added that the faculty federation insists that implementing the new system would put a lot of pressure on students already in the midst of preparing for the IIT-JEE next year.’

He also added that new format would increase the stress of students as students aspiring to join institutes other than the IITs need not sit for two test as proposed. ‘The IITs advance test should be subjective type, just for the candidates aspiring to join the IITs. This advance test would be held on a day different from the main test and would be administered to only shortlisted candidates from the main test (50,000 to 70,000) by the IITs,

but HRD wants to include all the short listed students in that advance test and wants objective type test, which is unpractical,’ said Ishtiaque.’ This is impossible because how one can check five to six lakh copies,’ said Ishtiaque.
आईआईटी दिल्ली के विद्रोह से दबाव में कपिल सिब्बल

श्री कुंजेश सिंह

नई दिल्ली। केंद्रीय संस्थानों के लिए संयुक्त प्रवेश परीक्षा के मुद्दे पर कानपुर के बाद अब दिल्ली आईआईटी एनीमेट के विद्रोह से मानव संसाधन विकास मंत्रालय दबाव में आ गया है। बीच का रास्ता निकालने के लिए कपिल सिब्बल ने 27 जून को आईआईटी काउंसिल की विरोध बैठक लुढ़काई है।

इस बीच शानिचर को ज्याइट पामिशन बोर्ड (जैस) की बैठक भी दिल्ली में होने जा रही है। संयुक्त प्रवेश परीक्षा के मुद्दे पर सुरू से आईआईटी की ओर से विरोध हो रहा था लेकिन सिब्बल बैठक में उनकी टीम को यह अंदाजा नहीं था कि विरोध करने वाले सभी विद्रोह पर उत्तर आएंगे। इस धारणा के पीछे दो आधार थे पहला यह कि आईआईटी काउंसिल कानूनी रूप से प्रवेश परीक्षा के मामले में सर्वोच्च संस्था है। दूसरे वे निर्देशकों से भी यह उम्मीद कर रहे थे कि वे अपने-अपने संस्थान में विरोध को शांत करने में समर्थ रहेंगे। मगर उम्मीद के विपरीत विरोध लगातार चला जाता जा रहा है। लंबे समय तक चर्चा के बाद 12 मई को सिब्बल की अध्यक्षता में हुई आईआईटी काउंसिल की बैठक में जो पारंपरिक तय हुआ था थोड़े फेरबदल के साथ 28 मई को केंद्रीय संस्थाओं की काउंसिल की संयुक्त बैठक में उस पर सिब्बल ने मुहर लगवा ली लेकिन आईआईटी प्रोफेसर उससे सहमत नहीं हुए।
Government may dilute common test plan to take IITs on board

BY PRASHANT NANDA
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NEW DELHI

A day after the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT)-Delhi rejected the common entrance test proposed by the central government, the human resource development (HRD) ministry expressed its willingness to accommodate the elite engineering schools by diluting the plan to some extent.

Three HRD ministry officials said the confrontation—between two IITs rejecting the common entrance test for all engineering schools in the country—that had led to “uncertainty among students” and action had to be taken quickly to resolve the issue. None of them were identified.

After the IIT-Delhi resolution on Thursday evening, the ministry called back a joint secretary on tour to take stock of the situation and declared that it will hold a fresh round of negotiations with the IIT Council, the umbrella body of all the IITs.

“The uncertainty faced by the student community consequent to the resolutions of the senates of IIT-Kanpur and IIT-Delhi requires to be addressed. Consequently, a special meeting of the IIT Council is being convened on 27 June,” the ministry said in a statement.

“We believe that IITs have taken their brand value too seriously and think it’s too precious (to be diluted). They are not willing to change,” one of the ministry officials said, but added, “We understand that and are willing to accommodate them. Whatever has happened over the last two-three weeks is unfortunate, but you cannot punish IITs.”

On 28 May, HRD minister Kapil Sibal announced the one-nation, one-test formula for all the engineering colleges across India after a meeting with the councils of IITs, the National Institutes of Technology and the Indian Institutes of Information Technology. Sibal is the chairman of all the councils.

The minister believes the move will reduce stress for students having to write multiple exams, lend weight to the Class XII board exam and reduce the influence of coaching centres that prepare students for the entrance tests.

It was then decided that applicants will be selected on the basis of three tests—the Class XII board exam, the JEE (joint entrance examination of IITs) main test and the JEE advanced exam. All the centrally-funded technical institutes except IITs were to give weight to these three sets of examinations in the proportion of 40:30:30. For IITs, the Class XII board and the JEE main were to work as screening tests.

A.K. Mittal, secretary of the All India IIT Faculty Federation, said IITs want to fully manage the JEE Advance (test) and only the top 50,000 students should appear for this, not all the 1.5 million students who are expected to take the test. Mittal doesn’t want the Class XII marks to be given any weight apart from being a qualifying cut-off.

“We don’t want the JEE Advance to happen on the same day with IIT-JEE. The pattern and day should be at the discretion of IITs and we are very clear that board marks should not have any role while making the ranking directly or indirectly. It should be like the present system where a certain per cent is required for applying to IITs,” said Mittal.

When asked about this stand of IITs, the second ministry official cited above said, “We are ready for such a change. We are ready to give IITs the entire responsibility of JEE Advance and other issues can be discussed on the table.”

The official said IITs have a special status and dismissed speculation about funds being cut to the dissenting IITs as a pressure tactic. “I can categorically say that it has not crossed our mind,” he said. “It’s not in the option list.”

The government provides nearly ₹150 crore to each of the IITs as planned allocation and around double the amount as non-planned allocation every year. Besides, many government-sponsored research and consultancy projects go to IITs.

The third government official with knowledge of the development said both the ministry and IITs were equally responsible for the confusion. While IITs regarded themselves as sacrosanct, the government was facing a trust deficit. “So, even good steps are being frowned upon and the people are not ready to trust the larger goal advocated by the ministry,” he said.

IIT-Delhi’s rejection of the move on Thursday followed a similar decision by IIT-Kanpur on 8 June. The joint admission board of IITs is to meet on Saturday for discussions before the ministry meeting next week.

Sanjay Purohit, an alumnus of IIT-Bombay and chief executive of education content creation firm iProf Learning Solutions Pvt. Ltd, said, “My views are inclined towards one-nation, one-test. I have seen the US examination system, where all 12th graders appear for one exam irrespective of their stream, I believe it is much more efficient and less stressful system for students. The initial period after the new exam will be of turbulence and population composition will change in the entry classes. Over time, we would see a complete education system overhaul adapting to this approach and much more efficiency coming into play.”

He, however, clarified that “the common test should be a two-step process—shortlisting (objective) and then selection (subjective). If it is a one-step selection, it should be objective to mitigate human errors and manipulation.”
Govt fears IITs batting for coaching centres

Kapil Sibal has convened emergency meeting with central institutes after IITD rejected CET

TANIA AMEER KHAN

NEW DELHI: With the war between the human resource development minister Kapil Sibal and the the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) intensifying deeply, the ministry has called a special meeting next week to discuss the controversial issue of the new Common Entrance Test (CET) proposed by the government.

On Thursday, IIT, Kanpur, was joined by IIT, Delhi, in taking on Sibal against the CET. They have decided to hold their own separate examination for undergraduate engineering courses from next year.

Reacting to this development, the ministry issued a statement on Friday that called a special meeting of the IIT Council on 27 June to discuss the impasse. In a press release, Sibal said, "The uncertainty faced by the student community, consequent to the resolutions of the Senates of IIT Kanpur and IIT Delhi, requires to be addressed. Consequently, a special meeting of the IIT Council is being convened on 27.6.2012."

An IIT, Delhi, Senate official said the institute will conduct the exam in association with IIT, Kanpur, which too is against the new format. However, IIT, Madras, is keen to go with Sibal’s proposal. Its director Professor Bhaskar Ramamurthi told Millennium Post: "Various senates gave their view, and we have supported the proposal of the HRD ministry, as its close to our viewpoint."

The sources in the ministry have said that the reason behind these two IITs vehemently opposing the CET is that the new proposal will hit at the Rs 10 to 15 crore coaching industry, in which faculty of the IITs have a direct say. The sources said that the IIT faculty fear that if Class XII marks are counted for admission to IITs, the importance of coaching centres will diminish.

However, Ramamurthi said, "Coaching centres are not our concern. We just want a good exam and good students to come out from it."

While sources in the Congress say that they believe the government is competent enough to handle the situation and will ultimately resolve this issue.

Prime Minister Manmohan Singh had earlier met members of the All India IIT Faculty Federation to find a solution to the impasse.

HINDU TIMES, Lucknow

**TESTING TIME FOR SINGLE EXAM**

IIT-KANPUR & DELHI
Against Sibal’s plan, have decided to hold their own exam

IIT-KHARAGPUR & BOMBAY
Likely to follow Kanpur and Delhi

IIT-GUWAHATI & ROORKEE
Fence-sitters, waiting for Kharagpur and Bombay to decide

IIT-MADRAS
Only centre to support Sibal’s one-test formula

**THE DISPUTE**
IIT faculty is against the HRD ministry’s common engineering entrance exam formula based on a two-tier test and giving weightage to board scores. They want the existing exam pattern to continue in 2013.
Social engineering
At long last, the HRD ministry has begun serious give-and-take with the IITs

AFTER IIT Kanpur, IIT Delhi has rejected the HRD ministry's new version of the Joint Entrance Examination, calling it "academically unsound and procedurally untenable". The HRD ministry has reopened negotiations with the IITs — Kapil Sibal has called a special IIT Council meeting on June 27. That's welcome, but if only a genuine process of consultation with stakeholders had been in place before the changes were rolled out, much of this heartburn could have been avoided. It makes sense to have a single test for all engineering exams. It is also true that IIT aspirants tended to secede from the school experience to cram for the JEE. Also, despite its meritocratic self-image, getting into an IIT has come to depend on coaching institutes, and those who can't afford this dedicated IIT-JEE training are at a disadvantage.

However, the HRD ministry hasn't solved the problem. It has only complicated it with the new common entrance examination, which will require students to prepare equally for the Class XII board exam, JEE Main and Advanced. The plan has been riddled with conceptual flaws right from the start — first, the HRD ministry pushed for a common test to provide a SAT-like standard. However, the SAT aims to separate academic ability from family background or quality of schooling — why should school scores be bundled into the final assessment for engineering schools? After some give and take with the IITs, the ministry has conceded that Class XII marks would only be used as a filter for them, and not be a part of the overall assessment. It clearly needs much more dialogue with the IIT faculty and administration — listening, not talking — before it rolls out these drastic changes.

Coaching institutes are not the problem, but the symptom of the spottiness of the school system. If the HRD ministry genuinely wants to produce a single, fair test for all engineering aspirants, it must ensure minimal uniform standards in schools, and make sure that they can prepare students for the exacting standards of the JEE.
IIT, JEE brass meet on joint entrance test today

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: A series of meetings starting Saturday could break the impasse between the government and the IITs over the implementation of the common entrance test (CET) from the next academic session. IIT directors and JEE chairmen will meet on Saturday under the aegis of the Joint Admission Board (JAB), while a special meeting of the IIT Council has been convened by the HRD ministry for June 27.

The JAB will discuss the modalities of implementing the government's May 28 decision that has caused resentment prompting Delhi and Kanpur to announce that they will be conducting their own tests. There are indications that IIT Bombay and IIT Kharagpur may follow their Delhi and Kanpur counterparts.

The IIT Council had announced that candidates for IITs and other central institutes like NITs and IIITs will have to take the re-worked CET from 2013 which will also take class XII results into consideration.

IIT Delhi students back institute

A day after IIT Delhi joined ranks with IIT Kanpur to conduct its own entrance test; an overwhelming number of students from IIT Delhi supported the move. An online survey conducted of over 900 students by two students bodies said that 93% students were opposed to the new JEE format. The survey was done by the Co-curricular and Academic Interaction Council and Student Affairs Council from IIT Delhi. TNN

The meeting assumes significance as it will precede the special meeting of IIT Council, the highest decision-making body headed by HRD Minister Kapil Sibal and including directors of all the 16 IITs, called on June 27. A statement by the ministry said the special meeting has been convened after the developments on Thursday in IIT Delhi, where the Senate adopted a resolution rejecting the proposed test and deciding to conduct its own entrance exam.
Entrance test row: IIT directors to meet today

NEW DELHI, 22 JUNE: Against the backdrop of a controversy over the government's proposal for single entrance tests, IIT Directors will meet here today which will be followed by their meeting with HRD Minister Kapil Sibal next week to address the issue.

The IIT Joint Admission Board, comprising IIT Directors, will discuss the implications of the government's 28 May announcement under which aspiring candidates for IITs and other central institutes like NITs and IIITs will have to sit from 2013 under a new format of common entrance test which will also take plus two board results into consideration.

The Board is also expected to deliberate upon the simmering discontent among the faculty of the IITs over the government's move, sources said. The meeting assumes significance as it will precede the special meeting of the IIT Council, the highest decision-making body headed by HRD Minister Kapil Sibal and including Directors of all the 16 IITs, called on 27 June to deliberate on the controversy.

There are indications that the IIT directors could also deliberate upon a compromise formula, which is reported to have been sent by the Ministry to them to end the ongoing logjam, at the Joint Admission Board (JAB) meet today.

Meanwhile, The Central Board of Secondary Education has revised the result of All India Pre-Medical/ Pre-Dental Entrance Final Examination, 2012 as per the new scheme for online counselling approved by the Supreme Court. pti
IIT directors meet today on test row

AGE CORRESPONDENT
with agency inputs

*NEW DELHI, JUNE 22*

In the wake of both IIT Delhi and IIT Kanpur rejecting the government’s single-entrance test proposal, IIT directors will meet in the capital on Saturday which will be followed by their meeting with HRD minister Kapil Sibal at a specially convened meeting of the IIT Council on June 27.

On Friday, the Union HRD ministry stated, “The uncertainty faced by the student community, consequent to the resolutions of the senates of IIT Kanpur and IIT Delhi, requires to be addressed. Consequently, a special meeting of the IIT Council is being convened on June 27.”

Meanwhile, the IIT Joint Admission Board, comprising IIT directors, will discuss the implications of the government’s May 28 announcement under which aspiring candidates for IITs and other Central institutes like NITs and IIITs will have to sit from 2013 under a new format of common entrance test which will also take plus-two board results into consideration.

The board is also expected to deliberate upon the simmering discontent among the faculty of the IITs over the government’s move.

The meeting assumes significance as it will precede the special meeting of the IIT Council.
IIT directors to meet today

PBD BUREAU/PTI

NEW DELHI; JUNE 22

AGAINST the backdrop of a controversy over the government’s proposal for single entrance test, IIT Directors will meet here tomorrow which will be followed by their meeting with HRD Minister Kapil Sibal next week to address the issue.

The IIT Joint Admission Board, comprising IIT Directors, will discuss the implications of the government’s May 28 announcement under which aspirants for IITs and other central institutes like NITs and IIITs will have to sit from 2013 under a new format of common entrance test which will also take plus-two board results into consideration.

The Board is also expected to deliberate upon the simmering discontent among the faculty of the IITs over the government’s move, sources said.

The meeting has been called in the wake of IIT Delhi and Kanpur rejecting the government proposal and deciding to have separate exams.

There are indications that IIT Bombay and IIT Kharagpur may follow their Delhi and Kanpur counterparts.

The meeting assumes significance as it will precede the special meeting of IIT Council, the highest decision-making body headed by HRD Minister Kapil Sibal and including Directors of all the 16 IITs, called on June 27 to deliberate on the controversy.

The IIT Council will discuss the situation created by the divisions among the elite educational institutions by the government proposal and the future course of action to end uncertainty among the student community, sources said.

There are indications that the IIT directors could also deliberate upon a compromise formula, which is reported to have been sent by the Ministry to them to end the ongoing logjam, at the Joint Admission Board (JAB) meet tomorrow.

The JAB has been conducting the IIT entrance test for 50 years.

The IITs are opposing the proposed test contending that it will increase stress of students instead of decreasing. They feel students aspiring to join institutes other than the IITs need not sit for two tests -- main and advance - as proposed by the HRD Ministry.

They have also insisted that board examination results should not be taken into consideration while preparing the merit list.
IIT admission board meets today amid exam angst

Kirtika Sunjaji
New Delhi, June 22

The cloud of uncertainty over admissions to the elite Indian Institutes of Technology has thickened. In the backdrop of two leading IITs – Kanpur and Delhi – opposing the common entrance exam proposed by the government and two more seen joining their ranks, the IIT joint admission board (JAB) met in the capital on Saturday to discuss the way forward. The development is crucial because it is the JAB which conducts the IIT joint entrance exams.

The meeting, however, has gained significance because sources said IIT Bombay and Roorkee too may shortly join Kanpur and Delhi.

On Thursday, IIT-Delhi rejected the single entrance test proposal, deciding to conduct its own exam next year. Following this, the apex body of the IITs, the JAB, was supposed to meet on Saturday to resolve the matter.

On Wednesday, at an executive meeting in Mumbai, the chairperson of the JAB,新模式, and the director general of the Ministry of Human Resource Development, said in a statement that the JAB had not taken a decision on conducting the exam. The decision would be taken after consulting the IITs at a subsequent meeting.

On Friday, the IIT council formally rejected the proposal to conduct a single entrance test. The council had appointed a committee to study the issue. The council also decided to conduct its own examination in February next year.

The HRD ministry, however, takes a different view, pointing to an ordinance which states that the council is supreme in matters like holding, entrance examinations.

The senate, on the other hand, has been obstructing the council's efforts to conduct the single entrance exam. The senate has been opposing the single entrance exam for several years.

The HRD ministry decided to conduct the single entrance test in February last year. The senate, however, has been opposing the single entrance exam.

In view of the examination, the senate has been opposing the single entrance exam. The senate has been opposing the single entrance exam, which means, examinations after the students have entered the institutes through the entrance exams.

The government has been considering the issue of the private sector and deemed universities before taking any drastic policy decision like in the case of management programmes last year and the common entrance test for technical institutes this year. The government has been considering the issue of the private sector and deemed universities before taking any drastic policy decision like in the case of management programmes last year and the common entrance test for technical institutes this year.

Deemed universities have been lining up for the single entrance exam, which has been opposed by the IITs. The HRD ministry has been considering the issue of the private sector and deemed universities before taking any drastic policy decision like in the case of management programmes last year and the common entrance test for technical institutes this year.

The government has been considering the issue of the private sector and deemed universities before taking any drastic policy decision like in the case of management programmes last year and the common entrance test for technical institutes this year.
एकल प्रवेश परीक्षा मुद्दे पर आईआईटी के निदेशकों की बैठक आज

नई दिल्ली (एजेंसी)। इंजीनियरिंग के केंद्रीय शैक्षणिक संस्थानों में दाखिले के लिए एकल प्रवेश परीक्षा आयोजित करने के सरकार के प्रस्ताव से पैदा हुए विवाद के मद्देनजर आईआईटी के निदेशकों की शाखाएं की बैठक होगी। इसके बाद उन्हें मानव संसाधन विकास मंत्री कपिल सिंहल के साथ उनकी बैठक होगी, ताकि इस मुद्दे का हल निकाला जा सके। आईआईटी का संयुक्त दाखिला बोर्ड सरकार की 28 मई की घोषणा को लागू करने के बाद में चर्चा करेगा। इसमें आईआईटी के निदेशक भी सदस्य हैं।

आईआईटी दिल्ली और कानपुर द्वारा सरकार के प्रस्ताव खारिज कर दिया जाने और उनके द्वारा अंतर्गत परीक्षा लेने के फैसले के मद्देनजर यह बैठक बुराई गई है। यह बैठक काफी मायने रखती है क्योंकि इसके बाद आईआईटी परीक्षा की विशेष बैठक होगी। मानव संसाधन विकास मंत्री कपिल सिंहल के नेतृत्व वाली यह परीक्षा निर्णय लेने वाली सर्वोच्च परिषद है। इसमें सभी 16 आईआईटी के निदेशक भी शामिल हैं। इसकी बैठक 27 जून को बुलाई गई है ताकि इस विवाद पर चर्चा की जा सके। विशेष बैठक में इन दोनों आईआईटी के प्रस्तावित परीक्षा से अलग होने के कदम पर चर्चा की जाएगी और इस अनिश्चितता को दूर किया जाएगा। जिसका खाता सामान्य कर रहे हैं। इस गतिरोध को भी दूर करने का रास्ता दिखा जाएगा।

सरकार ने 2013 से साझा प्रवेश परीक्षा आयोजित करने की 28 मई की घोषणा की थी, जिसके तहत छात्र आईआईटी, प्रौद्योगिकी, आईआईटी जैसे अन्य केंद्रीय संस्थानों में दाखिला ले सकते। साथ ही, मेधा सूची तैयार करने में छात्रों के 12वीं के परीक्षा परिणाम पर भी विचार किया जाएगा।

हालांकि, आईआईटी ने इस नए प्रारूप की प्रवेश परीक्षा का विरोध करते हुए दर्शाया था कि इससे छात्रों की परीक्षा अजीब बदल गई। यह भी कहा गया है कि मेधा सूची तैयार करने समय 12वीं के नतीजों पर विचार नहीं किया जाना चाहिए।
आईआईटी के निदेशकों की बैठक आज

नई दिल्ली, 22 जून (भाषा)। इंजीनियरिंग के केंद्रीय शैक्षणिक संस्थानों में दाखिले के लिए एकल प्रवेश परीक्षा आयोजित करने के सरकार के प्रस्ताव से पैदा हुए विवाद के मद्देनजर आईआईटी के निदेशकों की बैठक शनिवार को होगी। इसके बाद मानव संसाधन विकास मंत्री कपिल शिवाल ने साथ आगे अगले हफ्ते उनकी बैठक होगी, ताकि इस मुद्दे का हल हो सके।

आईआईटी का संयुक्त दर्शन बोर्ड सरकार की 28 मई की घोषणा को लागू करने के बारे में चर्चा करेगा। इसमें आईआईटी के निदेशक भी सदस्य हैं। सुझावों ने बताया कि सरकार के इस कदम से आईआईटी के संकाय सदस्यों के बीच हुए असंतहर पर भी बोर्ड द्वारा चर्चा किए जाने की उम्मीद है। आईआईटी दिल्ली और कानपुर द्वारा बाकी पेज 8 पर
IIT dissent spreads, 2 more favour own test

HARD LINE Now, Kharagpur, Bombay may dump Sibal plan

IIT-KANPUR & DELHI
Against Sibal's plan, have decided to hold their own exam

IIT-KHARAGPUR & BOMBAY
Likely to follow Kanpur and Delhi

IIT-GUWAHATI & ROORKEE
Fence-sitters, waiting for Kharagpur and Bombay to decide

IIT-MADRAS
Only centre to support Sibal's one-test formula

THE DISPUTE
IIT faculty is against the HRD ministry's common engineering entrance exam formula based on a two-tier test and giving weightage to board scores. They want the existing exam pattern to continue in 2013

Charu Sudan Kasturi & Vanita Srivastava
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NEW DELHI: Two more centres of the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) may join its Kanpur and Delhi branches in holding their own admission tests from next year, further challenging HRD minister Kapil Sibal's plan for a common engineering entrance exam.

Faculty members influential in the senates of IIT-Kharagpur and IIT-Bombay said they were veering towards rejecting Sibal's proposal — which is of using board marks and an all-India test to screen candidates and then making them appear for a final exam conducted by the IITs.

IIT-Kharagpur is holding its emergency senate meeting next week while IIT-Bombay's senate is scheduled to meet on July 5.

Sources in IIT-Roorkee and IIT-Guwahati said they were waiting for Kharagpur and Bombay to decide. "If IIT-Bombay and IIT-Kharagpur go with Kanpur and Delhi, we may well follow suit," a senior IIT-Roorkee faculty member said.

IIT-Madras was the only one to have decided in its senate to back Sibal's plan.

The tussle between the HRD ministry and IIT teachers has left hundreds of thousands of students, who either completed school this year or are in class 12, confused about what to expect next year.

IIT teachers continue to protest despite concessions made by Sibal. "I am willing to talk to the faculty at any time they want," he told HT earlier this week.

The Joint Admission Board, which decides on admissions to the IITs, is meeting on Saturday while the ministry has called an emergency meeting of the IIT Council — the highest decision-making body of the IITs headed by Sibal — on June 27. The council meeting may prove to be a last-ditch effort to evolve consensus on the proposed examination reforms.
HRD Ministry convenes IIT Council meet on June 27 to resolve row

NEW DELHI, DHNS: A day after IIT Delhi decided to go the IIT Kanpur way and hold a separate entrance test for admission to its undergraduate courses, the Human Resource Development Ministry on Friday called an emergency meeting of the council of IITs on June 27 to end the current impasse.

"The uncertainty faced by the students, following the resolutions of the senates of IIT Kanpur and IIT Delhi, requires to be addressed. Consequently, a special meeting of the IIT Council is being convened on June 27," the HRD Ministry said in a statement.

"The special meeting of the council will discuss the fallout of the move of the two IITs, address the issue of uncertainty faced by the students and the way ahead to end the logjam," sources in the Ministry said.

According to sources, senates of IIT Bombay and IIT Kanpur may toe the line of their Delhi and Kanpur counterparts.

A large section of faculty members from these four institutions have been vocal in their protest to the "one nation, one examination" plan of the government.

While IIT Bombay senate will hold a crucial meeting on the issue on July 2, faculty members of IIT Kharagpur are likely to ask their Director to hold a senate meeting soon. IIT Kharagpur Director Damodar Acharya, whose tenure ends on June 30, has so far backed the IIT Council.

The IIT Council, National Institutes of Technology (NITs) and Indian Institutes of Information Technology (IIITs) have unanimously decided to hold the test in two parts, the JEE-Main and the JEE-Advance. It was decided that equal weightage will be given to marks scored in the Class-XII board examination and score in the main entrance, to screen candidates for the advance test.

Section of the faculty and alumni opposing the proposed test format have been contending that the class-XII board examination results should not be taken into consideration for selection of candidates.

Clarifying the proposed test format, HRD Minister Kapil Sibal recently said the provision for weightage to performance in class-XII board examination was not meant for selection of candidates to the IITs. The ranking of candidates for admission to undergraduate programmes in the IITs would be based "entirely" on the performance in JEE-Advance.

Joint Admission Board (JAB) of the IITs has been given a "complete control" over paper setting, evaluation and preparation of merit list for the JEE-Advance test, according to the council's decision.
Economic Times, ND 23/06/2012

P-2

IIT Council Meets on June 27 to Fix Admission Row

Uncertainty faced by the student requires to be addressed, says HRD ministry

OUR POLITICAL BUREAU NEW DELHI

In the aftermath of the senate of two IITs—Kanpur and Delhi — rejecting the new common entrance examination, the human resource development ministry has called for a special meeting of the IIT Council to discuss the issue.

"The uncertainty faced by the student community consequent to the resolutions of the IIT Council is not in line with the HRD ministry's objective," a ministry spokesperson said.

The HRD ministry has faced numerous protests from students of all IITs on the new common entrance examination. The council has blamed the students for not understanding the regulations and failing to follow them. The ministry has also asked the students to participate in the discussions and express their views.

Our Bureau

New Delhi, June 22

The controversy surrounding the proposed ‘one nation, one test’ module for engineering institutions has reached fever pitch with the Government calling for a special meeting with the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Council to discuss the issue.

At a meeting held on Thursday, the IIT Council had tabled the footsteps of JEE 2012 and rejected the proposed admission procedure for undergraduate courses.

A release issued by the IIT Council said, "For the year 2012, IIT Delhi shall admit students to its undergraduate programmes through an examination which will be on a pattern similar to the one used in JEE 2012."

The release added that the Government’s decisions are in line with the stated position of the Senate of IIT Delhi and impose on its autonomy, while they are academically unsound and procedurally untenable.

ADDRESS CONCERNS

Following this resolution, which is also likely to be adopted by IIT Bombay and Kharagpur at their Senate meetings in the Human Resource Development Ministry has decided to call a special meeting with the IIT Council on June 27 to look into the concerns raised by the premier institutes.

A release from the HRD Ministry said, "The uncertainty faced by the student community consequent to the resolutions of the senates of IIT Kanpur and IIT Delhi, requires to be addressed."

TOUGH TASK: Kapil Sibal

\[\text{Unfortunate that there was talk of autonomy being infringed upon, when there was nowhere the case.} \]

Kakodkar

\[\text{IIT Council member.} \]

HRD plans new move to win over IITs

An urgent meeting of the IIT Joint Admission Board has been called on Saturday to find a compromise formula to resolve the stand-off between IITs and the ministry on the issue.

While the ministry is directly not holding discussions with IIT faculty, they have been on the phone with all IITs, sources said.

Meanwhile, faculty members from IITs, Kharagpur, Kharagpur and IIT-Delhi have begun meeting in other cities on the compromise offer. Director of several IITs are discussing the proposal with faculty in their respective institutes.

Sources within IITs said that federals had been sent out to their universities, but in the meantime it was learnt that they were not particularly enthused. "No written formula has come from the ministry so far."

"There is no written proposal from the ministry, any discussions so far, have been held on an informal basis, with the ministry willing to go forward with the new exam pattern only after a detailed meeting with the faculty members and the IIT Joint Admission Board," a faculty member said.

"The IITs are looking at the new exam pattern with a lot of caution, and are not willing to take the risk of implementing it," the source added.

The ministry has written to IIT-Delhi, which is currently handling the JAB position, to hold a meeting and define the "current status and timelines" of the IIT JAB exam.
Sibal calls meeting of IIT Council
IIT Joint Admission Board to meet in Delhi today

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, JUNE 22

With IIT-Delhi also rejecting the proposed common entrance examination for all engineering colleges, and amidst anxieties that more IITs may follow suit, Union HRD Minister Kapil Sibal has called a meeting of the IIT Council next week to address the concerns being raised.

"The uncertainty faced by the student community, consequent to the resolutions of the senates of IIT-Kanpur and IIT-Delhi, requires to be addressed. Consequently, a special meeting of the IIT Council is being convened on June 27," a statement from the HRD Ministry said.

The IIT Council, which has directors of all the 16 IITs as members, is the highest decision making body related to the IITs and is chaired by the HRD Minister.

Ahead of the IIT Council, the IIT Joint Admission Board is meeting in Delhi on Saturday to deliberate on the same issue.

The government has proposed to replace the multiple entrance examinations for different engineering colleges with a single exam that will act as the qualifying test for the IITs, NITs and all the other engineering colleges. The new format will also give weightage to the marks obtained by students in the Class XII board exams.

IIT-Kanpur was the first one to reject the proposal and said it would conduct separate entrance examinations for itself. IIT-Delhi has now joined ranks.
Stung Sibal reaches out to IITs

HRD Minister calls for special council meet

PNS NEW DELHI

Stung by the decision of the Senate of two prestigious IITs to conduct separate entrance tests, HRD Minister Kapil Sibal has called for a special meeting of the IIT Council next week. The IIT Council is the highest decision-making body headed by HRD Minister and includes Directors of all 16 IITs.

On the other hand, the Directors of all IITs have also called for an urgent meet on the controversial issue on Saturday. The meeting of IIT Directors assumes significance as it will precede the special meeting of the IIT Council on June 27.

While a Council of Board for Secondary Education (COBSE) meeting on June 28 would also discuss the controversy over the entrance test format, June 30 is the last date for States/UTs to respond. At the same time, the UGC has called all the deemed to be universities on Monday to discuss and adopt the HRD proposal of one nation one test for entry to their IIT-Kharagpur may follow the decisions taken by the Senate of Delhi and Kanpur to conduct JEE on their own.

HRD Ministry sources say that the uncertainty faced by the students consequent to the decision of the Delhi and Kanpur IITs has forced the Ministry to review the situation. "The special meeting will discuss the fallout of the move of the two IITs, address the issue of uncertainty faced by the students and the way ahead to end the logjam," official sources claimed.

The IIT Council will discuss the situation created by the divisions among the elite educational institutions by the Government proposal and the future course of action to end uncertainty among the student community, sources said.

On Saturday, the IIT Joint Admission Board (JAB), comprising IIT Directors, will discuss the implications of the Government's May 28 announcement. Sibal had announced that aspiring candidates for IITs and other central institutes like NITs and IITs would have to appear for a common entrance test from 2013 under a new format, which would take Class XII results into consideration.

The Board is also expected to deliberate on the simmering discontent among the faculty of the IITs over the Government's move, sources said. There have been widespread resentment from across the IITs, faculty members, Senates, students and alumni association forcing Prime Minister Manmohan Singh to assure IITs' autonomy.
IIT council meet to clear confusion

By Ritika Chopra in New Delhi

The rebellion of the IITs has forced the HRD ministry to call a special meeting of the IIT council on June 27.

In a statement issued to the media on Friday, the ministry said the meeting has been convened to address the uncertainty faced by the students because of the recent resolution of the senates of IIT Delhi and IIT Kanpur. Both senates have rejected the new format of the Joint Entrance Examination and have decided to conduct separate entrance tests to admit students in 2013.

IIT Delhi, in fact, went a step further by announcing that it would reach out to its counterparts and coordinate the separate entrance exam with them. The ministry’s move comes in the wake of indications that senates of IIT Bombay and Roorkee may also follow suit. The Bombay senate will probably meet in the first week of July.

The ministry’s decision to call the council’s meeting has, in a way, come as a damper for the Joint Admission Board (JAB) meeting scheduled for Saturday. The JAB, consisting of all IIT directors, JEE examiners and a few ministry officials, was supposed to discuss the modalities of the JEE advanced test under the new format.

HRD ministry forced to call meeting on June 27

"But now that the IIT council is going to meet on Wednesday to discuss this issue again, there are chances that some sort of compromise could be evolved. In such a scenario, I doubt if the JAB meeting will yield anything significant on Saturday," an IIT director said.

HRD minister Kapil Sibal has also indicated that he’s willing to listen if the IIT council has a better formula to suggest as long as it strengthens the school system and allows rural children to compete for the IITs.

The government had on May 28 announced the new test from 2013, under which aspiring candidates for IITs and other central institutes like NITs and IITs will have to sit under a new format of common entrance test which will also take plus two board results into consideration.

The IITs oppose the new format, contending that the proposed test will increase students’ stress instead of decreasing it. They feel students aspiring to join institutes other than the IITs need not sit for two tests — main and advance — as proposed.

Goverdhan Mehta, IIT Delhi have rejected the proposal for a combined entrance exam.

Anil Kakodkar

POINT COUNTERPOINT

(Three arguments of the IIT faculty and responses from two members of the IIT council)

**IIT Faculty Argument**

1. The council announced the new format of the entrance test without the proper completion of the consultation process.
2. Any big change should only be introduced in 2014 or later as it will adversely affect students preparing for JEE next year.
3. There is no fair method of normalising Board marks and so it should only be used as a cut-off criterion.

**Goverdhan Mehta’s Response**

1. The directors of all the IITs are ex-officio members of the council. It’s reasonable to assume that they reflect the views of their faculty and students.
2. It’s not a question of 2013 or 2014. One has to ensure the system is prepared to conduct the entrance exam on such a large scale.
3. You can’t dismiss Board marks. One should not forget that every child who gets admission in IITs, after all, is a product of board exams.

**Anil Kakodkar’s Response**

1. There were 2 panels (Acharya & Ramaswami), talks within council and senate’s views were sought. Faculty too supported the May 12 decision.
2. Students who took boards this year & are preparing for JEE are not disadvantaged as they can improve Board marks next year.
3. In the new format Board marks do not play a direct role. It’s only used for screening. So in way it still remains a cut-off.
IIT revolt: Govt calls meeting to resolve row

**Aditi Tandon/TNS**

**New Delhi, June 22**

Under pressure to resolve the ongoing crisis over the future of engineering entrance exams in the country next year, the Human Resource Development Ministry has called a special meeting of the IIT Council on June 27.

The move to convene this meet comes in the wake of unprecedented developments wherein the Senates (faculty bodies) of IIT Delhi and Kanpur rejected the IIT Council's May 28 decision to hold a common engineering entrance exam in 2013, with weightage in admissions for school leaving exam marks and scores in JEE Main and Advanced.

With IIT Delhi and Kanpur deciding to hold their own tests for admissions, the government is under pressure to clear the air on the status of engineering entrance tests next year and to test the apprehensions of students, who say they don't know what they need to prepare for.

Accordingly, the ministry said in a statement today, "The uncertainty faced by the student community, consequent to the resolutions of the Senates of IIT Kanpur and IIT Delhi, requires to be addressed. Consequently, a special meeting of the IIT Council is being convened on June 27."

The special meeting is expected to take a call on whether the CET is to be held next year or if the 'one nation-one exam' proposal mooted by HRD Minister Kapil Sibal and cleared by the IIT Council on May 28 needs to be advanced beyond 2013 in the larger interest of students.

Sibal is also under pressure to take a firm decision in the matter after Prime Minister Manmohan Singh assured agitating representatives of the All India IIT Faculty Federation of the protection of IIT academic autonomy in terms of admission processes and decisions.

Ministry sources said students were the top priority of the government and their interests paramount. That being the case, the Council may agree to advance CET beyond 2013 and allow JEE and AIEEE to be conducted for admission to IITs and NITs etc. It may also agree to hold CET minus the IITs or at least formally decide to exempt the IITs from the system and allow them time until 2015 to join the all India CET process.
Times Of India Chennai 22-06-2012 P-11

‘CET an attack on IITs’ autonomy’

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: The ambitious plan to introduce a single entrance test for centrally funded engineering institutes, including NITs and IITs, was expected to reduce the stress on students and make the exam more inclusive by incorporating the board exam but ended up raising a storm over the alleged erosion of IITs’ autonomy.

Rejecting the IIT Council decision for a CET as “attack on the autonomy of the IITs”, the IIT Delhi Senate said it would “conduct its own entrance examination in coordination with other IITs, if possible”.

Speaking after the meeting, All India IIT Faculty Federation secretary Prof A K Mittal said, “A unanimous decision was taken to reject the IIT Council decision of conducting a single entrance test. IIT Delhi will conduct its own exam.”

A Senate member said, “The proposed (common) test is academically unsound and procedurally untenable.” He said the other IITs have been asked to reject the new system and side with IIT Delhi and IIT Kanpur.

A resolution passed at the end of the meeting said the senate had decided that the next year’s test will be on the lines of JEE 2012. “For 2014 and beyond, the senate will set up a committee which will review and propose changes to the senate,” it said.
आईआईटी के बढ़ते विरोध के कारण परीक्षा 2013 के बजाए 2014 से कराने पर विचार

सिंगल टेस्ट पर सूर ढीले

अंदीली | जदना जेज़ा

सिंगल पंड्र्स टेस्ट पर एक के बाद एक आईआईटी के विशेष के बाद एक
सरकार के सूर ढीले धड़ लगाते है। मानव
संसाधन विकास मंत्रालय ने आईआईटी फैक्लेटी फेडरेशन के साथ मिलकर बीच
का स्वागत किया है। कई एक तो यह टेस्ट को लेकर कुछ मुद्दों के पर आईआईटी का मार्ग स्वीकार
करने के संबंध में दिया है।

इसमें टेस्ट को 2013 की बजाय
2014 से लागू करने के लिए एक प्रस्ताव
है। इस प्रस्ताव का नाम "सिंगल पंड्र्स टेस्ट" है। इसे अगले वर्ष रूपांतरित करने के लिए एक प्रस्ताव
है। इसे अगले वर्ष रूपांतरित करने के लिए एक प्रस्ताव है।

बैठक में आईआईटी कांपुर और आईआईटी दिल्ली को स्वीकार हतावत
प्रश्नों को तत्काल कराया गया। तत्काल कराया गया। तत्काल कराया गया।

ज्योति की धारक होने वाले विषयों के बिना वैश्विक
संघ भी भी अपने रूप
है। वीवी के भाषण के दौरान शायद भी उनके
प्रश्नों को तत्काल कराया गया। तत्काल कराया गया। तत्काल कराया गया।

नए प्लांट की विकास समाधान?

प्रस्तावित सिंगल पंड्र्स टेस्ट में संशोधन के
अवश्यक सरकार के बारे में एक प्रश्न को देखते हैं।
क्रिया की जा रही है। इसका अंतिम
स्वीकार होना है। इसका अंतिम
स्वीकार होना है। इसका अंतिम
स्वीकार होना है।

सिंगल पंड्र्स टेस्ट को 2014 से आयोजित
cरने, एडब्ल्यूआई के साथ आईआईटी
में आयोजित करने के लिए एक प्रस्ताव को तत्काल कराया गया।
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स्वीकार होना है। इसका अंतिम
s
आईआईटी निदेशकों को मनाएंगे सिब्बल
27 जून को काउंसिल की होगी विशेष बैठक

नेषनल ब्यूटी। नई दिल्ली

आईआईटी से एक के बाद एक मिल रहे हैं हड़कों से परेशान मानव संसाधन मंजी कहें विभाग ने आईआईटी प्रशिक्षण का एक विशेष बैठक 27 जून को बुलाया है। इस बीच दिल्ली में स्नातकों को व्याप्त एमिशन बोर्ड की बैठक के बाद आईआईटी निदेशकों की एक आह्म बैठक हो रही है। माना जा रहा है कि अगले हफ्ते होने वाली बैठक में मंत्री सर्वेश ने पुराने आईआईटी निदेशकों से गतिशील खाता खोने के उपयोग सुझाने का अनुरोध करेगा। मानवसंसाधन मंजी कहें विभाग आईआईटी निदेशकों के संरक्ष में है। सूचनाओं का कहना है कि निदेशकों ने मंत्रालय के द्वारा में सिंगल टेस्ट के प्रति पर हासिल जरूर भी है, लेकिन उनके संसाधनों में जिस तरह का विशेष सामने आ रहा है उससे वे अपनी राय बदलने को नजरूहा है। पिछले दिनों आईआईटी फैक्टरी फेडरेशन के लोग प्रधानमंत्री से भी मिले थे। इसके बाद मानव संसाधन मंत्रालय पर दबाव बढ़ा है।

गैरतलव है कि इंजीनियरिंग के लिए आईआईटी सहित केंद्रीय विश्वास संस्थाओं के लिए प्रसाधित सिंगल टेस्ट से आईआईटी कानपुर और आईआईटी दिल्ली के अलग होने के बाद मंत्रालय काउंसिल की राय लेने को विशेष हुआ है। मंत्रालय सूचनाओं ने कहा कि हम छात्रों की पिंदा दूर करना चाहते हैं। आईआईटी कानपुर और दिल्ली के फैसले के बाद छात्रों में धम्म को विशेष पैदा हुई है।

अलग परिस्थितियों को घोषणा से परेशान सिवूल

मंत्रालय सूचनाओं ने कहा कि विशेष बैठक में इन दिनों आईआईटी के प्रसाधित परिस्थिति से अलग होने के कदम पर चर्चा की जा रही है। सिवूलल गतिशील खाता खोने के उपयोग पर चर्चा की जा रही है। आईआईटी दिल्ली और आईआईटी कानपुर के बाद आईआईटी मुंबई और आईआईटी खड़गपुर से भी मानव संसाधन मंत्रालय को सक्रियता संबंधित नहीं मिलते हैं।

गैरतलव है कि सरकार ने 28 मई की काउंसिल बैठक में एक राय बनने का दावा करते हुए वर्ष 2013 से सिंगल टेस्ट करने की घोषणा की थी। आईआईटी कानपुर पहली आईआईटी थी, जिसने सरकार के फैसले से उल्टा कदम उठाते हुए अपनी अलग परिस्थि आयोजित करने की घोषणा की। बौद्धिक अंतर को दिये जाने वाले पेटेंट, नामदाउंगिन फारमूला सहित परिस्थि के प्रारूप को लेकर आईआईटी सहमत नहीं है। आईआईटी नहीं चाहते कि उनका बच्चे कस्ट कर को तत्काल हो।
सिब्बल ने बुलाई आइआइटी कॉसिल की बैठक

प्रवेश परीक्षा विवाद सुलझाने की होगी कोशिश

जागरूक खुशी, नई दिल्ली : राष्ट्रीय प्रौद्योगिक संस्थान (आईआइटी) में प्रवेश के लिए एकल परीक्षा पर मचे विवाद को सुलझाने के लिए मानव संसाधन विकास मंत्री कपिल सिब्बल ने 27 जून को आइआइटी कॉसिल की बैठक बुलाई है। कॉसिल आइआइटी से संबंधित सभी फैसलों के लिए सर्वोच्च संस्था है और सिब्बल इसके अध्यक्ष है। इससे पहले शनिवार को आइआइटी के निदेशक भी बैठक कर रणनीति तैयार करेंगे।

आइआइटी और एनआइटी की संयुक्त एकल परीक्षा के फैसले के खिलाफ आइआइटी दिल्ली और आइआइटी कानपुर ने विवेश का झंडा उठाया कर अपनी स्वतंत्र प्रवेश परीक्षा करने का फैसला किया है। मानव संसाधन विकास मंत्रालय के अधिकारियों को भरोसा है कि आइआइटी कॉसिल की बैठक में प्रवेश परीक्षा के मामले में कोई दस्ता निकल आएगा। बैठक में सिब्बल खुद एकल प्रवेश परीक्षा का विवेश कर रहे आइआइटी संस्थानों के निदेशकों के तकनीकी विभागों को सूचना और उनकी आपत्तियों को दूर करने की कोशिश करेंगे। बैठक में आइआइटी निदेशकों को एकल प्रवेश परीक्षा के लिए मामले की कोशिश के रूप में देखा जा रहा है।

आइआइटी के निदेशक भी अपनी रणनीति बनाने की कोशिश करेंगे। इसके साथ, शनिवार को आइआइटी निदेशकों को अलग से बैठक बुलाई गई है। बैठक में सभी आइआइटी के बीच इस मुद्दे को लेकर एकतर्कित बनाने की कोशिश होगी। ध्यान दें, इस मुद्दे को लेकर एकतर्कित बनाने की कोशिश होगी।
IIT-I to decide later on entrance pattern

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INDORE: A day after Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Delhi rejected the new entrance exam format announced by Human Resource Development Minister Kapil Sibal on May 28, Indian Institute of Technology Indore was maintaining a wait and watch policy.

It is to be believed that IIT Indore will go with majority and will decide their stand only after IIT Bombay and IIT Kharagpur opened their cards, one of the senior faculty members at the IIT Indore informed. When approached, IIT Indore registrar, G Rajashekhar refused to comment on the issue.

Earlier on Thursday, IIT Delhi rejected the entrance exam format announced by Human Resource Development minister Kapil Sibal on May 28 and said it would hold its own entrance exam, much like IIT Kanpur; a worried HRD minister has called a special IIT Council meeting on June 27 to address the concerns of students.

Sources at IIT Indore believed that institute administration don't want to hurt the HRD ministry, since they were close to HRD minister Kapil Sibal and that is why would stick to wait and watch policy.

Sources said there are indications that IIT Bombay and IIT Kharagpur may follow their Delhi and Kanpur counterparts.
आईआईटी की स्वायत्तता में दखल

आईआईटी काउसिल और मानव संसाधन विकास मंत्रालय ने अगले वर्ष से आईआईटी तथा एनआईटी और आईआईआईटी के लिए एक संयुक्त परिषद् लेने का फैसला लिया है। इससे 12वीं बोर्ड के अंकों को भी जोड़ने की योजना है। इसका काफी निर्देश किया जा रहा है। गरीब बच्चों को अपने सुपर-30 के जरिये आईआईटी की राह दिखाने के लए युवा गणितक अनुदान कुमार से इस विषय पर ब्रजेश सिंह ने व्याख्या कीं:

• आईआईटी-जेईई परिषद के पैर्टन में बदलाव की कोशिशों को आय किस रूप में देखेंगे?

सबसे पहले हमें यह देखना चाहिए कि इस बदलाव का मकसद क्या है। जब जो फैसले लिए गए हैं, उनसे मकसद आधिकारिक हो सकेगा। आईआईटी काउसिल तथा मानव संसाधन विकास मंत्रालय का तर्क है कि बच्चों को कई परीक्षाओं के तालाब से बचने के लिए एकल परीक्षा जरूरी है। लेकिन नेरी मानना है कि प्रत्येक प्रवेश में बच्चे में तनाव बढ़ेगा। प्रत्येक नई प्रणाली में आईआईटी में प्रवेश के लिए बच्चों को इंटर बोर्ड के साथ ही पीई मैन (मुख्य संयुक्त परीक्षा) तथा एडवांस के लिए तीहरी तैयारी करनी होगी, जिससे बच्चों को भी बढ़ाता मिलेगा। इससे सीधे साप्ताहिक समय के साथ पड़ सकता है जो तीहरी और परीक्षा परीक्षाओं के बच्चों के लिए आईआईटी में प्रवेश पाना और कठिन हो जाएगा।

• आईआईटी काउसिल के कर्तव्य संयुक्त परीक्षा में क्या खासियत है?

कार्यान्वयन में आईआईटी को संयुक्त प्रवेश परीक्षा में भाग लाने, भी आईआईटी में 15 तालाब तथा विभिन्न राज्यों की इंजीनियरिंग प्रवेश परीक्षाओं में पांच तालाब बच्चे हर साल शामिल होते हैं। अनुमान है कि एकल प्रवेश परीक्षा प्रणाली को स्वीकार करने से उससे तकरीबन 20 लाख बच्चे राहिल होंगे। जाहिर है, आईआईटी-जेईई एडवांस के लिए पहले जहाँ पांच लाख बच्चे थे, वहीं यह संख्या 20 लाख तक जा सकती है। इससे बच्चों पर कोचिंग लेने का दबाव भी बढ़ा और कोचिंग संस्थाओं का धर्म बढ़ा। प्रमुख वात इंटर बोर्ड के अंकों को ‘वार्डलाइज’ करने का भारतीय साहित्यकार संस्थान का पहलुपुल करा होगा, जो अगले साल समा नहीं आया है। इस भारतीय संस्थान के कारण भी प्रत्यक्ष परीक्षा का भोजन किया जा रहा है।

• मंत्रालय चाहता है कि प्रवेश परीक्षा और कोचिंग के चलते छात्र इंडियाडिग्रेट या 12 वीं की पढ़ाई की उपस्थिति न करें?

यह सही है, इससे हम भी सहमत हैं। लेकिन इसके लिए काउसिल द्वारा सुझाव दी गया पारितृप्ता सही नहीं है। स्कूली शिक्षा के महत्व को कामवृत रखने के लिए बोर्ड में मिले अंकों को महत्वदायक है। इसके लिए इंडियाडिग्रेट 12वीं ने पढ़ाई की उपस्थिति करने के लिए स्कूली शिक्षा का महत्व वर्तमानमें पर अपार उत्साह में जोड़ा जा सकता है। इस टेस्ट को देखते हुए कई स्कूली बोर्ड के पाठ्यक्रम को भी समान बनाना होगा। सुंदरुर एनसीईआरटी की इंटर पूर्तकों से परीक्षा के प्रसारण प्लान के लिए वर्तमान दिन की अनुसूची दी जा सकती है। बच्चे छात्र अन्य परीक्षाओं में हिस्सा लेने सकते हैं। इससे इंटर की शिक्षा में बच्चों की रचना बढ़ने जा सकती है।

• आईआईटी, कानपुर तथा दिल्ली ने प्रस्ताव को अपनी स्वीकृति में दखल मानते हैं, आपका क्या कहना है?

आईआईटी कानपुर तथा दिल्ली की सीटेट के फैसले को मैं भी सही मानता हूं। मैं उनके इस तरीके से सहमत हूं कि काउसिल उन पर अपना फैसला धीरे-धीरे संस्थान की स्वायत्तता में दिल्ली के लागू करना चाहिए। लेकिन इस विषय में नकाशा छापों को होगा। इसलिए दोनों पक्षों को मिल जुलकर एक साथ बनानी चाहिए।
Gates or barriers?

College entrance exams should test for potential, not achievement, or it risks dividing society further, says Shubhashis Gangopadhyay

Some time ago my colleagues and I were working on indoor air pollution resulting from fuel use in India. In our findings, indoor air pollution was caused to a large extent by the use of firewood for cooking and, to a lesser extent, by kerosene in rural areas. In our team there was a young Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) student who helped us in collecting scientific material on the heat efficiency and emissions of firewood, kerosene and gas (LPG). Our basic questions were: (a) Do people know how these efficiencies and emission rates stack up? (b) Why is it that they are choosing fuels in a way that affects their health due to pollution within the house? (c) How much of this distorted choice was because of misplaced policies?

However, I am not going to comment on our work, but on the young IIT student who helped us with the study as our research assistant (RA). He was simply brilliant. He had done little or no economics and, hence, spent time first understanding the methodology we were using. Second, he knew exactly what the steps in the argument were and took the initiative to stay one step ahead of what we were asking of him. Third, he collected a very relevant set of research papers and documents that helped us understand better the scientific principles and methodology behind the technical calculations that we used in the study. I have seldom been so impressed with someone who came to me during his vacation simply because he was interested in what we were trying to do. I wrote a very strong recommendation letter for him and he went away for higher studies to one of the best universities in the US.

... Why am I writing about him today? I am reminded of him because of what I saw in the papers regarding admission tests for the IITs and "cut-offs" in Delhi University. Are we doing enough in our higher education admission systems to ensure that students from small towns can make it big? Are we ensuring that we take in those with the highest potential? Or, are we simply ensuring that students with parental resources to pay for coaching centres and access to costly schools in big cities are being rewarded with a shot at higher education? This is a pertinent question in India since we have a peculiar asymmetry in our education system. While the government has failed miserably in providing good schools - most will want to send their wards to private schools - institutions like the IITs are world-beaters and highly subsidised by the government. What this tends to do is widen the gap between the rich and the poor; children growing up in bigger towns and in wealthier families have greater access to the better training in costlier schools which, in turn, enable them to have better access to the highly subsidised institutions of higher learning. Since higher education reaps higher returns, this system strengthens the divide between the rich and the poor. Our RA was a small-town lad and not from a well-off family. He and his family had struggled very hard so that he could get a good education. Will he find it easier to join the IITs today than when he did?

For me, government-funded higher education has to admit the very best. This is not because I am an elitist but because I think that when we are using public money (which includes the taxes paid by the poorest of the poor) we better come up with solutions that yield the highest returns. The question to ask of our admission system, therefore, is whether we are taking in those who have the highest potential. The reason for harping on the word "potential" rather than on "achievement" is that the latter depends on many more things than simply potential. The impact of good training on high potential is many times more than the same good training on low potential. Unfortunately, achievement in school-leaving examinations is a very imprecise estimate of the potential to do well in higher education.

Think of a poor child in a village school studying science. Her physics and chemistry laboratories are no match for the ones in a costly private school in Delhi. Her teachers are usually absent. Given that nobody from her school has ever been admitted to any of the IITs, she has no pointers from any of her seniors. Of course, if she is someone like Ramana, she may "achieve" in spite of this. However, if she is a notch behind him, she may be lost to society forever. Are we doing enough to bring such students into higher education? I am afraid that the current debate between the higher education minister and the directors of the IITs is not addressing this issue.

Take, for instance, the proposed compromise of an 80 per cent cut-off to be able to sit for the IIT entrance examination. Is Maya, who obtained an average of 79 per cent in a village school, worse than Dilip, who got 81 per cent in a Delhi school? The former will never enter any IIT while the latter will, at least, have a shot at it. Of course, life is not fair, but there is no reason for brilliant people not to put their heads together to try and make it fairer. Therefore, when we say that Maya's entry into an IIT at the expense of Dilip will dilute the average quality of an IIT student, we should have a better argument than simply pointing to their performance at the school-leaving examination.

The writer is research director at India Development Foundation and director of the School of Humanities and Social Sciences at Shiv Nadar University.