आईआईटी दिल्ली के नए निदेशक की नियुक्ति प्रक्रिया शुरू

नई दिल्ली (भाषा)। आईआईटी दिल्ली के नए निदेशक की नियुक्ति प्रक्रिया शुरू हो गयी है और मानव संसाधन विकास मंत्रालय ने 40 वरिष्ठ शिक्षाविदों के साक्षात्कार लिए हैं। इस पद के लिए करीब 70 वरिष्ठ शिक्षाविदों ने आवेदन किया है। एक समिति द्वारा साक्षात्कार लिए और चयनित उम्मीदवार के नाम अंतिम मंजूरी के लिए राष्ट्रपति प्रणब मुखर्जी कार्यालय भेजे जाएंगे जो केंद्रीय संस्थानों के ‘विजिटर’ हैं। मंत्रालय ने पद खाली होने पर पिछले साल आईआईटी निदेशक के पद के लिए आवेदन मांगे थे।
IITs OK 200% fee hike, ministry may not play ball

Akshaya Mukul & Hemali Chhapia | TNN

New Delhi/Mumbai: The standing committee of the IIT council has approved a 200% fee hike, thus upping the annual tuition fees from Rs 90,000 to Rs 3 lakh for undergraduate students. At the same time, interest-free scholarships will be offered under the Vidyalakshmi scheme.

While the final decision on the hike rests with the IIT council headed by HRD minister Smriti Irani, the SCIC, which met on Thursday, studied the average cost per student and felt that 80% should be collected from them. “On an average, it costs a bit over Rs 5 lakh a year to educate one student at an IIT. But while we approve the increase in fees, we also want to assure students that there will be scholarships and loans and the IIT gates will be open to all, irrespective of their means,” said SCIC chairman Ashok Misra.

A panel, that included the directors of the Bombay, Madras, Kanpur and Hyderabad IITs, had drawn up a document — ‘Roadmap to Financial Autonomy of IITs’ — in consultation with the HRD and finance ministries in which it recommended the hike. This, the panel had stated, would be enough to cover costs incurred by way of salaries and maintenance.

A highly placed ministry source, however, made it clear that a hike of this proportion will not be accepted and a middle path could be found. Fee hike for post-graduate students will be examined later. “The standing committee does not take decisions. We only prepare agenda for the IIT council,” Bhaskar Ramamurthi, director, IIT Madras, told TOI.

Free e-classes by IIT profs soon

In a big step forward aimed at helping poor students aspiring to join IITs, the standing committee of IITs agreed with HRD ministry’s proposal for launching an IIT-PAL (professor-assisted learning) that would provide free online coaching by IIT professors and experts to students. Former IIT Bombay director Ashok Misra has been assigned the task of making the portal a reality. The idea is to create an interactive portal that would upload lectures by IIT professors. Akshaya Mukul | TNN
Soon, free online lessons from IIT professors

Akshaya Mukul | TNN | Mar 18, 2016, 09.42 AM IST


New Delhi: Now, poor students aspiring to join the IITs will get free online lessons from the prestigious institutes' professors.

The IITs have agreed to a government proposal for professor-assisted learning, which will be called IITPAL.

"We want to break the stranglehold of coaching centres," a senior government official said.

Former IIT Bombay director Ashok Misra has been put in charge of creating the IITPAL portal.

The interactive portal will have uploaded lectures by IIT professors on physics, chemistry and mathematics. Questions and answers from the IITs' Joint Entrance Examination of the past 50 years will also be uploaded.

"Most of them (the coaching centres) have the database of questions which we will (also) provide free along with solutions," the senior official said.

Students can send their queries online to individual professors. Students will also be given assignments. The IITs are also agreeable to the idea of having a mobile app for the portal so that students can read lectures and work on assignments while they are on the move.

CBI gets sanction from IIT-Kanpur to prosecute NS Gajbhiye

TNN | Mar 17, 2016, 11.15 PM IST


Bhopal: CBI on Thursday received sanction from IIT-Kanpur to prosecute Dr NS Gajbhiye for his alleged role in illegal recruitment scam of Dr Hari Singh Gour Central University, Sagar. The agency has booked him in connection with nearly a dozen cases of irregularities, besides a case of disproportionate assets.

"We have got necessary clearances for his prosecution from the executive committee of the university and IIT Kanpur. Charge-sheet would soon be filed against Gajbhiye and two others in one of the cases," said a CBI officer wishing anonymity.

Gajbhiye was working as a professor at IIT-Kanpur before his appointment as first VC of HS Gour University after it was declared a Central university in 2009. His services were repatriated to IIT-Kanpur after completion of a five-year term. An affidavit submitted to CBI indicates 153 assistant professors and associate professors were appointed against 76 vacancies advertised in newspapers. As per complaint, appointments were made in flagrant violation of Central University and Statute Act, 2009.
Several other complaints were filed against university authorities. There are allegations that university had purchased instruments worth crores for a nano lab without recommendations of technical committee and even before the building was completed. Head of the technical committee resigned in protest. Similarly, furniture worth Rs 2.43 crore was purchased from a Mumbai-based company. The money was shown as spent on SC/ST welfare, according to complaints submitted to CBI.

In similar instances of wasteful expenditure, the university purchased books worth Rs 4 crore in one day from a book fair in New Delhi. The purchase is also under CBI scanner. Former VC had been contending the charges.

Google offers Rs 1.8 crore to IIT Patna's Ashutosh Agarwal

THE HANS INDIA | Mar 17, 2016, 10:12 PM IST

BENGALURU: In India, it has been a dream for many students who complete their higher education to look for highest paying jobs from Apple, Oracle, Microsoft, Google, Adobe, and Facebook. IIT students have again proved that such dream can be a reality by grabbing the highest paid jobs from the aforementioned firms. Early this year, an IIT Kharagpur student, Vatsalya Singh bagged an INR 2 crore per annum package with Microsoft. Later this year, other IIT students of the country have also been awarded with such highest paying jobs. Business Insider interrogates that life is merry, once the milestone of entering into the IITs of the country is achieved!!

Ministry calls for green campuses, AU takes step 1, to audit energy utilised

TNN | Mar 18, 2016, 01.13 AM IST

Allahabad: The UGC (University Grants Commission) has invited proposals from all central universities, including Allahabad University (AU), to develop their campuses as green campus during the 12th five-year plan.

Financial assistance upto Rs 5 lakh would be given for preparation of a master plan and DPR (detailed project report) including the action plan for renewable energy installations, green campus development, awareness generation and trainings.

AU PRO, K N Uttam said, "AU administration has started following UGC's instructions and to start with, the varsity has started budgeting of energy after which we would be conducting auditing of individual units wherein energy consumed and utilised would be audited."

In the second step, the proposal for 'green campus' would be sent to UGC, he added.

The ministry of new and renewable energy aims to develop green campuses - under development of solar cities programme - which aims at at least 10% reduction in projected demand of conventional energy at the end of five years. Universities across the country have been asked to step forward for developing their campus as green campus. To qualify as a green campus, buildings within the campus should be based on green building concepts. It would have to
carry out energy and water audit of the campus. Universities would have to explore the utilization of a renewable energy system. Likewise, solar cooking systems must be utilised for hostels.

A master plan for the campus would have to be prepared keeping in view the overall reduction in fossil fuel-based energy by 25% within next five years by utilizing renewable energy applications, and taking suitable measures for energy conservation and energy efficiency.

Institutions have also been asked to organise awareness/training workshops in their respective campuses regarding renewable energy applications, and taking suitable measures for energy conservation and energy efficiency.

Besides, the possibility of redesigning of exterior surfaces of the buildings with energy efficient material may be explored. Universities are free to propose any other innovative actions or points that can be taken for making existing green campus, mentions the UGC letter.

PRO Uttam said there is always scope for improvement and the possibility of sending a proposal would be explored.

**UGC asks varsities to oraganise Yoga fests for students**

Press Trust of India | New Delhi  March 17, 2016 Last Updated at 22:48 IST


University Grants Commission (UGC) has sent letters to Vice Chancellors of universities asking them to organise two to three-day Yoga fest in April and May for students.

In separate letters, UGC secretary Jaspal S Sandhu said that Prime Minister Narendra Modi has emphasised the need for making Yoga more appealing to youth so that they can imbibe this rich cultural heritage and their energy could be channelized in nation-building.

"You are requested to organise 2 to 3-day 'Yoga Fest' during April-May, where students could be sensitised about the strengths and health benefits of Yoga.

"They may also be trained in the Common Yoga Protocol (CYP) to be performed on International Day of Yoga on 21st June, 2016, which is available at the website of the Ministry of AYUSH," the letter said.

Sandhu also suggested other activities for this fest' like cultural programmes based on Yoga.

Lectures by experts on subjects such as, 'Yoga for Lifestyle modifications', 'Yoga for Wellness', 'Yuva Yoga', 'Yoga and Detoxification', 'Power of Pranayama', could also be included in the fest, he said.
UGC anti-ragging rules prescribe penalties for race, caste remarks

Neelam Pandey, Hindustan Times, New Delhi Mar 18, 2016 08:35 IST

Using racially or ethnically pejorative terms will come in for stricter punishment at institutions of higher education under new anti-ragging regulations taking effect from the upcoming academic session.

Addressing someone as Bihari or chinki, for instance, or practising discrimination on the basis of someone being a transgender person will come under an expanded definition of ragging approved as part of the latest amendment in regulations at a UGC (University Grants Commission) meeting on February 4.

“The terms race, racial, ethnic, ethnicity, transgender and stalking have now been brought under the regulations and anyone found guilty will face action,” a senior official said.

Those held guilty can be suspended, rusticated, removed from the hostel, have their results withheld or face a fine ranging between Rs 2,000 and Rs 1 lakh.

“There are so many incidents of discrimination and harassment that take place but police find some excuse or the other not to file a complaint. Now we know that calling names will be covered under ragging, so more students will file complaints. This is a positive move,” J Maivio, vice-president of the North East Indian Welfare Society, said.

The Supreme Court had taken cognizance of ragging and constituted the Raghavan Committee to give specific recommendations to prevent the menace, following which a sub-committee under the chairmanship of Rajendra Prasad, principal of Ramjas College, was formed in June last year.

The sub-committee focused on discrimination on the basis of physical characteristics/gender identity, too. “These have now been defined as punishable forms of racial injustice,” a senior official said.

The commission sent its recommendations to the HRD ministry for concurrence and a gazette notification will be issued soon.

The ministry has allocated a sum of Rs 5 crore to the UGC for a media and publicity campaign against ragging in educational institutions. Radio jingles, short films and TV ads will be created to make students, parents and teachers aware of punishment, provide call-centre numbers, and distribute information about who to contact in case of ragging. Universities and colleges have witnessed a spurt in incidents of discrimination on grounds of regional or caste origins over the past few years. As students from the northeast in particular faced a lot of discrimination, former HRD minister Pallam Raju had requested the UGC to consider racial discrimination as ragging.

Most universities fall in line with UGC directive

MG, Calicut, Kannur varsities to go by ruling on research guides; KU keeps compliance in abeyance
Arts and science universities in the State, with the exception of the University of Kerala, have decided to implement, with small variations, the UGC directive that retired teachers shall not act as research guides. Following a UGC letter, the University of Kerala had passed an order mandating that retired teachers be no longer considered research guides.

The varsity order also stipulated that a guide has under him only a maximum of eight doctoral scholars and five M.Phil. scholars at a time.

The varsity’s academic council, however, decided that a letter should be written to the UGC listing practical difficulties.

The UGC reportedly replied, reiterating that its directive be complied with. The varsity issued an order on February 1 wherein teachers who retire in 2015-16 were allowed to act as research guides for one more year.

The order says that existing research supervisors who are retired teachers can continue guiding research scholars so as to complete the research work before July 15, 2016. The university’s Syndicate which met on February 29 decided to keep in abeyance compliance with the UGC directive.

Mahatma Gandhi University has decided that no new research scholar would be allocated to a retired teacher from April 1, 2016.

However, existing research scholars under retired teachers would be allowed to complete their work. Vice Chancellor of Kannur University M.K. Abdul Khader told The Hindu that a scholar under a retired teacher would be allowed to complete the research work and submit the thesis.

At Calicut University too the UGC directive is being implemented with the same modification; that existing research scholars under retired teachers would be allowed to complete the work. With immediate effect, retired teachers are not being given new scholars.

**UT teachers bat for 80% quota during appointments**

The union members have demanded that during the appointment of teachers, 80 per cent of the seats should be reserved for candidates from Chandigarh and the remaining 20 per cent should be from outside.

Express News Service  Chandigarh Updated: Mar 18, 2016, 5:38


The UT Cadre Educational Employees Union has written to the Ministry of Human Resource and Development (MHRD) for implementing a reservation quota for teachers from Chandigarh.

The union members have demanded that during the appointment of teachers, 80 per cent of the seats should be reserved for candidates from Chandigarh and the remaining 20 per cent should be from outside.

The president of the UT Cadre Educational Employees Union, Swarn Singh Kamboj, said owing to the absence of UT quota for appointment of teachers, majority of the posts were being filled by applicants from Punjab and Haryana.

Kamboj told The Chandigarh Newsline: “Recently 1,100 posts were filled in the UT for JBT and TGT. Out of them, majority of the posts have been filled by candidates from Haryana. In the absence of any quota for applicants from Chandigarh, many students after finishing their BEd and MEd degrees from Chandigarh go to other states looking for jobs.”
The students pursuing their education in the UT have also voiced their support for the implementation of a quota for appointment of teachers from the city.

“The students who complete their degrees from colleges in Chandigarh should be entitled to some sort of quota for being appointed in the UT. How does it make sense for students from Chandigarh having to knock doors of other states for employment every time? In states like Punjab and Haryana, we also face the problem of domicile certificates, further narrowing our job prospects,” said Hiral, a student pursuing her BEd from Panjab University.

According to the union members, 600 new teachers are soon going to be appointed under the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyaan (SSA) in Chandigarh. A proposal has already been sent to the Centre for implementing an 80 per cent reservation quota for these appointments.

In the proposal sent, it has also been added that for making appointments for teachers in the UT, it should be made mandatory for the applicants to have opted for Hindi or Punjabi in Class X.

“We had raised the point regarding making Punjabi or Hindi a mandatory option last year as well with the UT education department. However, it was not considered. If a teacher is appointed in Chandigarh, it only makes sense to ensure that he or she knows Hindi or Punjabi for effective communication with the students,” Kamboj added.

A letter containing these demands regarding appointment of teachers in the UT has been forwarded to the MHRD and the Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE).
CBSE to rework marking for ‘tough’

REMEDIALL Board to set up panel of subject experts before evaluation begins

Shradha Chettri

NEW DELHI: The Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) on Thursday constituted a committee to review the Class 12 mathematics question paper that students and parents said was “unnecessarily tough and lengthy”.

Students across India went into a panic mode after Monday’s exam, raising the board to address their concerns. By Tuesday, over 300 petitions were filed on change.org, with some asking for a retest.

The panel, which includes a subject expert, curriculum expert, board representative, will take corrective measures and prepare a marking scheme before evaluation begins, said a CBSE official.

A copy will be sent to all checking centres and students will be marked according to the set formula, he said.

Usually the board first sends feedback from teachers, principals and students about the question paper to the committee, said LV Sehgal, principal, Bal Bharti School. “The committee then reviews, sets and finalises the marking scheme for that particular paper taking the feedback into account,” he said.

Moderation of marks is generally reserved for rare occasions when it is clear the paper was difficult, a CBSE source said.

Moderation, by keeping in a process of academic leveling through a slight “upscaling or downscaling” of marks, usually benefits low scorers.

“A similar situation arose last year for the same subject. The board took a similar measure,” an official said. The board set up an experts’ panel last year too to rework the marking scheme.

For particularly vague or tricky questions, marks for every answer step are also mentioned in the scheme. “In case there are out of syllabus questions in the paper and students attempt them, the evaluators generally award marks for the attempt alone,” said Sehgal.

Students may also get marks for correct application of formulae even if the answer is wrong.

Students raced against time to solve complex calculations

Shradha Chettri

NEW DELHI: No question was set from outside the syllabus but the allegedly elaborate calculations required to solve even the one-mark problems in the Class 12 mathematics exam left students racing against time.

To complete one question of Section C, it took me 25 minutes. There were six questions more (of six marks each) which I had to complete in the short duration. Due to nervousness, I could not even solve the questions I knew,” said Dhruv Bhatt, a Class 12 student.

Another student from a well-known school in Delhi said he took 35 minutes to solve a six-mark question.

“I technically finished my paper half an hour in advance, with six questions of one-mark each, required complex calculations. One of the one-mark questions asked was for four marks in last year’s CBSE foreign board paper, said a student.

“The paper was lengthy, but students who focussed on time management during preparations could pull through,” said Ramesh Barshis, an expert at FIT-JEE, Noida.

He said the exam may not have on the same level as IIT-JEE, as suggested by some students.

Students from science, commerce and humanities appear for the mathematics exam every year. Most colleges require students to clear the subject in Class 11 to be able to study an honours programme in either commerce, economics or business economics.

Most colleges require students to clear math to be able to study honours in commerce, economics or business economics.

THE STICKY POINTS

Students picked out five questions in the paper that they either found too lengthy or difficult. They explained why they took time and teachers rate the legitimacy of the claims.

SECTION A had six questions of one mark each. Students are expected to spend not more than 10 minutes on the section.

The two vectors \( \mathbf{a} \) and \( \mathbf{b} \) represent the two sides \( AB \) and \( AC \) respectively of a triangle \( ABC \). Find the length of the median through \( A \)

STUDENTS’ VIEW

Amogh Mahal, Class 12, Dwarka Public School: I am a science student and we have such questions in physics too. Though not difficult, I spent 5-6 minutes on it. It was certainly difficult for commerce and humanities students.

Find the maximum value of

\[ f(x) = 1 + \sin x + \cos x \]

Samarth Jain: I decided to skip this question because attempting it would mean wasting time. I couldn’t afford to lose out on the 4 and 5-mark questions.

Abhay Garg: This question also requires 4 steps to come to an answer. Here too, students would have spent some time as CBSE is also particular about steps.

SECTION B had 13 questions of 4 marks each, requiring 50 minutes.

Show that the equation of normal at any point \( t \) on the curve \( x = 3 \cos t - \cos^3 t \) and \( y = 3 \sin t - \sin^3 t \) is

\[ 4y(\cos t - \sin t) = 3 \sin 4t \]

Shahid: I managed to prove the equation but I spent almost 25 minutes on it.

Nirmal Gupta, Alfonso International School: It was very difficult to prove the equation and would have consumed a lot of time.

Find \( \frac{ds}{dt} \) when \( t = \frac{\pi}{4} \).

S Gupta: I spent 10 minutes trying to prove it and then gave up. At the end and I was left with no time to do the 6-mark questions.

Nirmal Gupta: It was a very tricky question. Students spent 20-25 minutes on it. For 4 marks, they didn’t spend more than 5 minutes.

SECTION C had 7 questions of 6 marks each.

An urn contains 3 white balls, 4 blue balls. Four balls are drawn one by one with replacement from the urn. Find the probability distribution of the number of blue balls drawn. Also find mean and variance of distribution drawn.

Prayagraj Bhattacharya: I left the question midway as it required a lot of calculation with many sub parts. The calculation span over several pages.

Nirmal Gupta: If the question was about two and not four balls, it would have been easier for students to solve in the given time. But with four balls, I myself have taken 7-8 minutes to solve it.