IIT-DELHI HAS GLOBAL RANK OF 218, RS TOLD

New Delhi, March 30: Indian Institute of Technology-Delhi is the country's highest ranking institution in world with a global rank of 218, the Rajya Sabha was informed Friday.

Minister of state for HRD D. Purandeswari said during Question Hour that as per the Quacquarelli Symonds global system of ranking of higher education institutions for 2011, IIT-Delhi is the overall highest ranking institution in India at serial number 218.

"As per the Times Higher Education World University Rankings for 2011, IIT-Bombay is the highest ranked institution at serial 317, while the Academic Ranking of World Universities has ranked Indian Institute of Science, Bengaluru at serial 321," she said. — PTI
IIIT - दिल्ली देश का टॉप इंस्टिट्यूट
आईआईटी-दिल्ली देश का सर्वोच्च शिक्षण संस्थान

नई दिल्ली, 30 मार्च (भाषा)। सरकार ने मुख्यमंत्री को बताया कि दिल्ली की भवनीय प्रौद्योगिकी संस्थान (आईआईटी) भारत की सर्वोच्च रैक वाली संस्था है, जिसे वैश्विक शिक्षा संस्थाओं में 218 वा रैक पर स्थान मिला है।

भारत संसद में विकास राज्य मंत्री हरिंद्र पुरालेखन ने शपथ सभा में प्रकाशित के दौरान बताया कि दिल्ली को जहां तक सार्वजनिक शिक्षा में व्यावसायिक क्षेत्र में 2011 के लिए भारत की सर्वोच्च रैक वाली संस्था आईआईटी दिल्ली की विभाग वैद्यनाथ ने 218 वा रैक पर दिखाया है।

उन्होंने एक नया प्रणाली के उद्घाटन का आयोजन किया जा रहा है। उनके प्रयासों के लिए भारत संसद में विकास राज्य मंत्री हरिंद्र पुरालेखन ने बताया कि इसके लिए एक नया प्रणाली का उद्घाटन किया जा रहा है।

पुरालेखन ने बताया कि इस प्रणाली के लिए एक नया प्रणाली का उद्घाटन किया जा रहा है। उनके प्रयासों के लिए भारत संसद में विकास राज्य मंत्री हरिंद्र पुरालेखन ने बताया कि इस प्रणाली का उद्घाटन किया जा रहा है।
DCNS inks MoU with IIT Bombay

DCNS signed, through DCNS Research, a Memorandum of Understanding with the Indian Institute of Technology, Bombay, one of the top academic institutions dedicated to engineering and technology research in India. It has been signed by Dr Alain Bovis, Executive Director of DCNS Research, and Prof Shiva Prasad, Dean of Academic Programmes in IIT Bombay.

This MOU opens new co-operation avenues to DCNS in India for education and research programmes in naval defence and energy. Considering their respective domains of expertise, DCNS and IIT Bombay expect a rapid deployment of several projects. These will include:

- Sponsoring research and development programmes to be carried out jointly by IIT Bombay and DCNS Research teams,
- Sponsoring Indian student projects and fellowships at IIT Bombay
- Training DCNS personnel through “Continuing Education Programmes” conducted by IIT Bombay.

The research projects will be run at IIT Bombay premises with support of DCNS Research teams or in dedicated common facilities.

Thermo hydraulics, electrical engineering and material sciences are the most promising areas of scientific interaction between the two organisations.

Prof Prasad said, “There is a huge potential for cooperation in educational and R&D programmes in the maritime and energy domains between IIT Bombay and DCNS.”

Dr Bovis said, “This new development emphasises our investments in long term in India. It also aims to accelerate technological progress in mutually beneficial areas by tying up with one of the top Indian research centres.”

IIT Bombay’s vision is to be a fountainhead of new ideas and of innovations. There has been an increasing emphasis on research which is reflected in the increasing number of postgraduates, publications and patents.

DCNS Research, the corporate research centre of DCNS, works on computational fluid dynamics, computational structure dynamics, material science, information technology, acoustics and electromagnetism.

This agreement is strongly supported by the Science and Technology Department of the French embassy in India.
Harvard gets more selective

College accepts 2,032 students out of 34,302 — less than Ivy League rivals Yale, Princeton

Janet Lorin
Bloomberg

Harvard College accepted 5.9 per cent of applicants for its freshman class, a record low and a smaller percentage than its Ivy League rivals Yale University and Princeton University.

Harvard offered seats to 2,032 students out of the 34,302 who applied for the 2012-2013 academic year, the school in Cambridge, Massachusetts, said in a statement. Yale accepted 6.8 per cent of applicants and Princeton 7.9 per cent, both also record lows, according to the schools.

Students have until May 1 to decide where to attend. Princeton and Harvard reinstated non-binding early acceptance programs this year, where those who applied in November found out in December whether they had been accepted. The low admittance rates, a measure of the schools' selectivity, may deter some students from applying, said Darby McHugh, college adviser at the Bronx High School of Science in New York.

It means we have to look beyond the Ivy League, McHugh said in an interview. Kids apply to Ivy League schools just because they’re Ivy Leagues and it’s not necessarily the right place for them. Princeton’s acceptance rate was based on a total applicant pool of 26,664, the Princeton, New Jersey-based college said on its website. Yale, in New Haven, Connecticut, received 28,264 applications, the undergraduate admissions office said in an e-mailed statement.

Columbia University in New York admitted 7.4 per cent of the 31,851 students who applied, Jessica Marinaccio, dean of under graduate admissions, said in an e-mailed statement.

Cornell University in Ithaca, New York, offered spots to 16.2 per cent of its freshman applicants, according to an e-mailed statement. The University of Pennsylvania admitted 12.3 per cent, the Philadelphia-based school said March 28.

Columbia, Penn and Cornell also belong to the Ivy League, which groups eight colleges in the northeastern US Harvard offered spots to about 125 fewer students than last year, because the return of its early action programme makes predicting how many students will accept more difficult, said William Fitzsimmons, dean of admissions and financial aid.

The school offered places to 772 students in December. “One thing we cannot have is to be overcrowded in the Harvard Yard,” Fitzsimmons said in a telephone interview. Harvard expects to use its waiting list, Fitzsimmons said. In some recent years as many as 200 students have been admitted in May and June, he said.

Harvard, the wealthiest school in higher education, had an endowment of $32 billion as of June 30. Alumni of Harvard College, the undergraduate division of Harvard University, include John Roberts, chief justice of the US Supreme Court, and Sheryl Sandberg, chief operating officer of Facebook.

Tuition, fees and room and board at Harvard for 2012-2013 will cost $55,496, up from $52,652 for the current academic year. Yale is the second richest school with an endowment of $18.3 billion.


Universe expanding, driven by ‘dark energy’

Study Reaffirms Einstein Theory That Empty Space Creating A Repulsive Force Is Behind Growth

London: The universe is expanding at exactly the speed professor Albert Einstein has predicted — driven by “dark energy,” says a new study.

For its study, a team of cosmologists from University of Portsmouth and the Max Planck Institute for Extraterrestrial Physics has examined the period between five and six billion years ago when the universe was half its present age and made measurements of extraordinary accuracy within 1.7%. The findings support Einstein’s general theory of relativity which predicts how fast galaxies, separated by large distances, should be moving toward one another and at what rate the structure of the universe should be growing. The conclusions are consistent with the concordance model of a universe that bloomed from the big bang some 13.7 billion years ago, the Daily Mail reported.

Team member Dr Rita Tojei ro said: “The results are the best measurement of an intergalactic distance ever made, which means cosmologists are closer than ever to understanding why the universe’s expansion is accelerating. One of the great things about Einstein’s theory of relativity is that it is testable. Our results support the theory and are fully consistent with the notion that constant vacuum energy — empty space creating a repulsive force — is driving the acceleration of the universe.”

“These are profound statements that describe the physics of our universe at the most fundamental level. Critically the results find no evidence that dark energy is simply an illusion stemming from our poor understanding of the laws of gravity— Einstein’s theory has passed its most stringent test yet at extra-galactic scales.”

Earth most likely was Moon’s sole parent

Researchers have cast doubts over Moon’s origin, challenging the widely held theory that a giant collision between Earth and Mars-sized object — that scientists call Theia — gave birth to the moon 4.5 billion years ago. But an analysis of titanium from the Moon, Earth and meteorites, published by Junjun Zhang at the University of Chicago, and four co-authors indicated Theia’s material came from Earth alone.
‘Govt to build 20 new design colleges soon’

NEW DELHI, DHNS: The government plans to build 20 new design colleges across the country as part of the 12th Five Year Plan, said Sam Pitroda, advisor to the Prime Minister on public information infrastructure and innovations.

At a plenary function on a five-day workshop on ‘design innovation’, Pitroda said the design schools will aim at creating professionals who can work towards resolving community issues.

“The government is building a billion dollar fund for innovations through science and technology, universities and banks. We have started two centres for innovation in Delhi and Baroda.

“Two national knowledge network to improve research collaboration will also be in place by the end of this year,” said Pitroda.

“At least 2.5 lakh local panchayats will be roped in to lay optical fibres.”

Though the Indian government innovates more than any other government, he said the challenge that the country faces is of affordability. “It is through design that India will be able to overcome several issues,” he added.

US model not sustainable

World over the best brains are being used to solve the problems of the rich and nobody has the time to address the problems of the poor, said Pitroda to DHNS. The consumerist model of economic growth which India has adopted from US will create more disparities between the rich and the poor of the country, he said. “Adopting the US economic growth model will not be sustainable, desirable and scalable,” he added, while addressing a conference ‘Country of my Dreams’ organised by JNU’s international youth forum on Friday. Pitroda emphasised on questioning the way things work. “Why do we need a car with 300 or so parts in it? Is that the right model? Is an auto rickshaw which is used in abundance the right model? Is there an alternative to oil? We need ask different questions.”
STATE TO DROP
MH-CET FOR NEW
EXAM FROM 2013

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MUMBAI: The state will do away with the Maharashtra Common Entrance Test (MH-CET) for engineering courses from next year and will instead adopt the newly announced Indian Science Engineering Eligibility Test (ISEET), state government officials said on Friday.

“The state has agreed to go for the ISEET. We have to decide on the weightage (for the different components of the test),” higher and technical education minister Rajesh Tope said. Maharashtra is among the first states to adopt the ISEET.

Tope attended a meeting organised by the Directorate of Technical Education on Friday with parents, teachers, educationists and students to get feedback on the new test.

ISEET, announced by the HRD ministry earlier this year, has been envisaged as a common national entrance test for engineering aspirants. The CBSE will conduct the two-part test, which will also take into account students' marks in the Class 12 board exam. States have the option of adopting the test as well as the weightage they would like to allot to each segment.
New engineering entrance exam to be held *twice a year*

**NEW SYSTEM** ISEET, which will replace the MH-CET from next year, will be binding on all engineering institutes in the state; committee to be formed to decide weightage to be given to board exam marks

**All engineering institutes, whether private or aided or deemed universities, will have to follow the ISEET from next year.**

The Maharashtra government, on Friday, said it would set up a committee to decide the weightage to be given to board exam marks while adopting the Indian Science Engineering Eligibility Test (ISEET) for engineering admissions in the state.

ISEET, announced by the human resources development ministry earlier this year, has been envisaged as a common national entrance test for engineering aspirants. The state government has decided to do away with the Maharashtra state Common Entrance Test (MH-CET) for engineering courses from 2023.

The logic behind introducing a single test is to do away with the stress students undergo preparing for multiple tests, as well as the cost and time involved.

On Friday, CBSE’s director general, Vineet Joshi made a presentation on the new test, while the director of the Indian Institute of Technology-Kharagpur (IIT-Kharagpur) spoke on it. Both clarified that the ISEET was a work in progress.

Joshi said the ISEET option is likely to be available twice a year — in April/May and then later in the year for students who miss the first round.

"All engineering institutes, whether private or aided or deemed universities, will have to follow the ISEET from next year," said a Directorate of Technical Education official.

Various audience members spoke on the weightage combinations possible. The minister said that all of these would be taken into account and a committee would be formed to deliberate on the matter. The committee would then formulate a report within the next two months and place it before the public. The policy would be finalised. The entire process is likely to take four months, Tope said. Some of the concerns expressed at the forum were regarding the board exam process itself; people wanted to know how transparent and error-free the process was.