आईआईटी को भेजा जाएगा ट्रैफिक पार्क के 36 करोड़ का अस्टेरिमेट

नेशनल दुनिया

नोएडा। प्राधिकरण ट्रैफिक पार्क बनाने के लिए 36 करोड़ के एस्टीमेट की फाइल मंजूरी के लिए आईआईटी दिल्ली को भेजेगा। 16 मई के बाद यह कार्यवाही शुरू हो जाएगी।

लोकसभा चुनाव की आचार सहिता खत्म होते ही परियोजना कांग्रेस से निकलकर जमीन पर आनी शुरू हो जाएगी। यह जनाकारी प्राधिकरण के आधिकारिक सूचनाएं ने दी। इसका विकास दो चरणों में किया जाएगा। पहले चरण में विज्ञान, पानी, सड़क, सीवर और पार्किंग जैसी बुनियादी सुविधाओं का विकास किया जाएगा।

- 16 मई के बाद शुरू हो जाएगी कार्यवाही
- दो चरणों में विकसित होगा ट्रैफिक पार्क

जाएगा। दूसरे चरण में ऑटोडोरियम, एम्यूज़मेंट पार्क, लैंडस्केप एरिया, वाटरबॉर्ड, रोड नेटवर्क, बस स्टॉप, हॉटेल, स्कूल, सिटिंग हबस, क्योस्क और सब-वे का मॉडल विकसित किया जाएगा। आईआईटी से मंजूरी मिलने के बाद नोटिस सीटीएट टेंडर (एनआईटी) के जरिए इसका विकास कार्य शुरू होगा।

ट्रैफिक के प्रति जागरूकता लोगों के लिए एक्सप्रेस-वे पर ट्रैफिक पार्क का निर्माण किया जाना है। दिल्ली के मुकाबले नोएडा शहर में ट्रैफिक को लेकर जागरूकता की भारी कमी है।

यहां रेड लाइट पार कर जाना, बॉयर इंडिकेटर दिए अचानक टर्न ले लूता और ट्रैफिक नियमों को ताक पर रखकर वाहन चलाना आम बात है। ट्रैफिक पार्क बनाकर इसके जरिए लोगों में जागरूकता उत्पन्न जाए। पार्क में ट्रैफिक से जुड़े नियम-कानूनों की जानकारी, फॉर्मां और, अंडरपास, फुट और ब्रिज, रेलवे रेस्टेंट, ट्रायल ट्रैक, गोल चक्कर और ट्रैफिक सिग्नल का मॉडल होगा।
Vijetha S.N.  

NEW DELHI: Only two Indian institutes — Indian Institute of Technology, Delhi and IIT Bombay — have made it to the Top 50 in the QS Asian University rankings that were released here on Friday.

Delhi University has been placed at a disappointing rank of 81, one fall down from its 2013 ranking of 80. IIT Madras, which was at 49 in 2013, has now slipped to 53. Although this year 17 Indian universities have made it to the rankings compared to last year’s 11, India is far behind China, Japan, Hong Kong and South Korea.

Rankings are based on criteria such as academic reputation (30 per cent); reputation of university among employers (10 per cent), student/faculty ratio (20 per cent); research by faculty (15 per cent), citations per paper (15 per cent) and proportion of international faculty and students (5 per cent) and exchange programme students (5 per cent).

As many as 491 institutes were evaluated, 474 ranked and 300 published. Banaras Hindu University, Panjab University, Manipal University, Amity University, Birla Institute of Technology and Science, and the Indian Institute of Information Technology all appeared for the first time.
कोई भी भारतीय विवि शीर्ष
10 एशियाई विवि में नहीं
आईआईटी दिल्ली 38वें स्थान पर

नई दिल्ली (भाषा)। ताजा क्यूएस यूनिवर्सिटी रैंकिंग में एशिया के 10 शीर्ष विश्वविद्यालयों में भारत का कोई भी विश्वविद्यालय शामिल नहीं है। सूची में 38वें पायदान पर शामिल आईआईटी दिल्ली को भारत का सबसे ऊपर स्थान होने का गौरव हासिल हुआ है। कुल मिलाकर रैंकिंग में 10 दूसरे स्थान पर जगह बनाई है। यूनिवर्सिटी ऑफ हांगकांग को तीसरा स्थान मिला है। जहां तक भारतीय संस्थाओं का स्वाल है तो आईआईटी मद्रास को 53वां, आईआईटी खड़गपुर को 60वां, आईआईटी रूडकी को 70वां और आईआईटी गुवाहाटी को 95वां स्थान मिला है। पिछले साल की तुलना में भारतीय संस्थाओं को जगह मिली है। यह रैंकिंग सोमवार को जारी की गई।

रैंकिंग की पहली प्रति सोमवार को क्यूएस, आईआईटी, न्यूजिश्च, कार्निन्सन, फिनकी और के-पीएमजी के एक प्रतिनिधिमंडल ने राष्ट्रपति प्रणब मुखर्जी को सौंपा। राष्ट्रपति ने विश्वविद्यालयों की वैश्विक रैंकिंग सूची में किसी भी भारतीय विश्वविद्यालय को जगह नहीं मिलने पर खेड़ प्रकट किया है। आईआईटी दिल्ली के बाद आईआईटी बंगाल की 41वीं स्थान; जबकि आईआईटी कानपुर की 52वीं स्थान प्राप्त है। नेशनल यूनिवर्सिटी ऑफ सिंगापुर ने पहली बार रैंकिंग में शीर्ष स्थान हासिल किया जबकि कोरिया के के-एआईएसी ने छठे स्थान से खिसककर वह एक पायदान नीचे बिसकता है। नियोजक एशिया के शीर्ष 25 विश्वविद्यालयों में ही रहे हैं और शिक्षाविद 40वें स्थान पर इसे आकर्षित हैं। रक्षक होने वाले विश्वविद्यालय की मिल स्थान के कारण कुछ सूचनकार्यों पर पंजा है। कल्किता विवि छात्रों के आदान-प्रदान के मामले में ऊपर है और दूसरे देशों में जाने वाले छात्रों के मामले में एशिया में दूसरे स्थान पर जबकि देश के भीतर आने वाले छात्रों के मामले में 52वें स्थान पर है।
शीर्ष 10 विवि में एक भी भारतीय नहीं

नई दिल्ली, प्रेदः- एशिया के शीर्ष दस विश्वविद्यालयों में भारत का कोई भी विश्वविद्यालय शामिल नहीं है। ताजा रैंकिंग में भारत के सिर्फ दस संस्थानों को ही जगह मिली है। इसमें आईआईटी, दिल्ली को 38वां स्थान मिला है। ब्रिटिश करियर परमर्श कंपनी क्यूएस ने सोमवार को यह रैंकिंग जारी की है।

क्यूएस, आईसीएए, ब्रिटिश काउंसिल, फिक्सी और केपीएमजी के एक प्रतिनिधिमंडल ने राष्ट्रपति प्रणव मुखर्जी को रैंकिंग की पहली प्रति सौंपी। बार-बार विश्वविद्यालयों को वैश्विक रैंकिंग सूची में किसी भी भारतीय विश्वविद्यालय को जगह नहीं मिलने पर राष्ट्रपति ने खेद जता चुके हैं। आईआईटी दिल्ली के बाद आईआइटी बांबे को 41वां, जबकि आईआइटी कानपुर को 52वां स्थान मिला है। आईआइटी दिल्ली को छोड़ दिया जाए तो पिछले साल की तुलना में भारत के सभी संस्थानों की रैंकिंग में गिरावट आई है। नेशनल यूनिवर्सिटी ऑफ सिंगापुर ने पहली बार रैंकिंग में शीर्ष स्थान हासिल किया, जबकि कॉरिया के केएआईएसटी ने छठे स्थान से छलांग लगाकर दूसरे स्थान पर जगह बनाई है।
Record 17 Indian universities find place in new Asian ranking

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NEW DELHI: There has been a sharp increase in the number of Indian institutes in the Asian Universities Ranking 2014 published by QS. The list, released for the first time in India on Monday, featured 17 Indian universities—a 50 per cent increase from 11 last year.

IIT Delhi holds on to 38th place, pulling clear of IIT Bombay at 41st. Five other IITs feature in the top 100, led by Kanpur and Madras just outside the top 50.

With seven IITs among the leading eight institutes, the top levels of Indian higher education remain much stronger in science and technology than in social sciences and arts.

“The IITs have a great reputation among graduate employers, and now produce a relatively high volume of research, but it is not yet having a significant impact in terms of citations,” QS head of research Ben Sowter said.

Among traditional universities, University of Delhi takes the lead at 81, having slipped one place since last year.

Moreover, Banaras Hindu University, Panjab, Manipal and Amity universities, Birla Institute of Technology and Science, and the Indian Institute of Information Technology made it to the list for the first time.

The ranking that has 300 universities in the list, reflects a swing in the balance of power in the continent as a whole, as Singapore and Korea overtake the traditionally dominant Japan and Hong Kong. National University of Singapore (NUS) tops the rankings for the first time, while Korea’s KAIST rises from sixth to second place.

Another global ranking had recently included IIT Guwahati in the top 100 of the ‘young’ global institutes.
17 Indian institutes in Asia’s top 300 list

By Prashant K. Nanda
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NEW DELHI

As India debates the poor global rankings of its universities and ways to improve them, a record 17 institutions from the country have made it to the top 300 list in Asia released on Monday by Quacquarelli Symonds (QS), a compiler.

Of the 17, eight found a place in the top 100 of the QS University Rankings Asia 2014 list. The Indian Institute of Technology Delhi (IIT-D) was the top ranked Indian institution at 38. IIT Bombay ranked 41, followed IIT Kanpur (52), IIT Madras (53), IIT Kharagpur (60), IIT Roorkee (70), University of Delhi (81) and IIT Guwahati (95).

“A record number of Indian institutions found place in the top 300 list,” John O’Leary, senior consultant editor at QS, said after releasing the list in New Delhi, describing the increase as a reflection of growing awareness of international rankings in India. “With awareness, you will see this growing further.”

Last year, 11 Indian institutions had found a place in the list of 300.

Still, India’s tally of two institutions in the top 50 places it behind Japan (13), China (9), South Korea (9), Hong Kong (6) and Taiwan (6), and level with Singapore and Thailand. The National University of Singapore won the top place in the list.

“The IITs have a great reputation among employers, and now produce a relatively high volume of research, but it is not yet having a significant impact in terms of (research) citations,” said QS head of research Ben Sowter. “India’s improved strength in depth is a sign of progress, but there is a long way to go before the IITs can compete with the very best institutions in Asia.”

India has usually fared poorly in compilations of top universities at regional and global levels, leading to much soul-searching among educationists about what’s wrong with the quality of the country’s leading institutions. Not a single Indian university made it to a list of the world’s top 200 universities released by QS last year.

International exposure is where the IITs and other institutions miss out, said T.V. Mohandas Pai, former head of human resource at Infosys Ltd.

For example, IIT Delhi scored 99.2 out of 100 for its reputation among employers and 84.9% on academic reputation, but in terms of international faculty it scored as low as 3.7, it scored 8.6 on the presence of international students, 4.6 on inbound students’ exchange and 4.9 on outbound students’ exchange.

“While the first two poor indicators are regulatory problems that the government needs to work on, the latter two needs to be ironed out at the institutions level,” said Pai, who is chairman of the board of Manipal Global.

“If you improve the internationalization aspect, then some of our IITs can come under top 20 ranks,” said Narayanan Ramaswamy, partner and head of the education practice at consulting company KPMG. He said one lacuna is lack of sufficient data from Indian institutions.

In 2014, 67 universities were eligible for ranking, but only 22 provided the required data and 17 figured in the rankings, said Karthick Sridhar, vice-chairman of the Indian Centre for Assessment and Accreditation (ICAA).

ICAA helped QS in collating some data and connecting them with Indian institutes. Sridhar said government institutions especially tended to be less collaborative than private counterparts and most of them don’t have dedicated persons to carry out such an exercise.

In 2014, the six new institutions that made the cut were Banaras Hindu University (142); Panjab University (171-180 range), Chandigarh; Manipal University, Manipal (181-190); Birla Institute of Technology and Science (BITS), Pilani and Indian Institute of Information Technology, Allahabad (both in the 201-250 range), Amity University (251-300), Noida. After 150, the agency assigns ranking within a range.

The human resource development ministry has asked top central government institutions to recognize the value of international rankings and appoint members to collaborate with agencies that compile such lists, Ashok Thakur, higher education secretary told the ranking agency. “We are slowly getting used to the requirements. We have got into the top 200 rank in Asia by participating for the first time and we hope to better the rank in future with due awareness,” said Lalit K. Bansal, dean of research at Panjab University.
17 Indian Varsities Among Asia’s Top 300

OUR BUREAU
NEW DELHI

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BHU & Panjab Univ among 6 Indian institutes to enter the list this year. The Indian Institutes of Technology lead the way with IIT Delhi holding on to its 38th position last year while IIT Bombay dropped two spots to 41

Among traditional universities, University of Delhi took the lead at 81.

Majority of existing Indian institutions report a marginal decline in this year’s rankings

BANARAS HINDU UNIVERSITY, Panjab University, Manipal University, Amity University, BITS Institute of Technology and Science and the IITs make it to Asia rankings for the first time.

Asia’s Top 5

NO. INSTITUTE COUNTRY
1 National University of Singapore Singapore
2 Korea Advanced Institute of Science & Technology (KAIST) Korea
3 University of Hong Kong Hong Kong
4 Seoul National University Korea
5 Hong Kong University of Science and Technology Hong Kong

QUACQUARELLI SYMONDS RANKINGS

BHU & Panjab Univ among 6 Indian institutes to enter the list this year. The Indian Institutes of Technology lead the way with IIT Delhi holding on to its 38th position last year while IIT Bombay dropped two spots to 41.

Our Bureau

New Delhi

Six Indian institutes have made an entry to the list. Banaras Hindu University, Panjab University, Manipal University, Amity University, BITS Institute of Technology and Science and the IITs make it to Asia rankings for the first time this year.

"There has been a considerable improvement in the number of Indian universities making it to the Asia rankings this year. This reflects an increasing engagement between Indian institutions and ranking agencies," said John O’Leary, member of the executive board, QS World University Rankings.

"The ones at the top are IITs which are close to where they were. Going up or down by a few positions does not signify a big change in performance. The increase in numbers is a good sign and one I expect to continue," he advised.

As in the previous editions of the rankings, the Indian Institutes of Technology led the way. IIT Delhi held on to its 38th position last year, ahead of IIT Bombay and IIT Madras just outside the top 100.

The IITs have a great reputation among graduates and employers. Five of them featured in the top 100, led by IIT Kharagpur and IIT Madras just outside the top 100 at 101-125.

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Five new Indian varsities join QS Asia rankings list

BS REPORTER
Mumbai, 12 May

More Indian institutions, 17 this year against 11 last, are on the Asian Universities Rankings 2014 list published by Quacquarelli Symonds (QS) Rankings.

Banaras Hindu University, Punjab University, Manipal University, Amity University and Birla Institute of Technology and Science have joined the list.

But the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT)-Bombay has slipped two notches from last year to 41 this year.

IIT-Delhi retains 38th rank.

Ben Sowter, head of research, said, "India's improved strength in depth is a sign of progress. But there is a long way to go before the IITs can compete with the very best in Asia. India's two institutions among top 50 put it behind Japan (13), China (nine), South Korea (nine), Hong Kong (six), Taiwan (six) and level it with Singapore and Thailand."

While IIT-Kanpur is down one spot at 52, IIT-Madras has slipped four. IIT-Kharagpur is down two notches at 60 and IIT-Roorkee down four at 70. IIT-Guwahati has seen the biggest drop at 95 against 89 last year.

"The IITs have a great reputation among graduate employers. These now produce a higher volume of research. But this is not yet having a significant impact in terms of citations," added Sowter.

The director of one of the newer IITs said, "Some breathing space needs to be given to IITs to improve rankings. Research and development (R&D) takes time. We have accelerated our R&D work by increasing the number of PhD students at all IITs."

A panel set up by the human resource development ministry on IITs' global rankings has filed its report. A member said some key suggestions were improving data collection, compilation and disbursement.

The member added, "Rankings are important. We, as an IIT system, have just started working on rankings. We have not worked on compiling data. Our data are not projected properly globally. We need to project our data based on what the rankings want."

Among universities, the University of Delhi takes the lead at 81, having slipped a place since last year. It is among the top 25 in Asia by employers and top 40 by academics. But its large size and low levels of international faculty and student exchange brought down its overall ranking.

Only the University of Calcutta ranks highly on student exchange, second in Asia for outbound exchange and 52nd for inbound.

Last year's number one institution, Hong Kong University of Science and Technology has dropped to the fifth place, giving way to National University of Singapore (NUS). NUS was number two last year. University of Tokyo has fallen to the 10th place, its lowest.

Sowter said, "These rankings confirm the emergence of Singapore and Korea as the region's new major players, denting the dominance of Hong Kong and Japan. Both NUS and Korea Advanced Institute Of Science And Technology have benefitted from major government investment in research. Operating in English has helped them attain new levels of global engagement."
Indian varsities score big in QS Asia list

fe Bureau

New Delhi, May 12: The Indian Centre for Assessment & Accreditation, along with QS Quacquarelli Symonds, on Monday unveiled the QS University Rankings: Asia 2014 at an event supported by the British Council, KPMG, FICCI, ThoughtWorks and Cambridge English.

In the current ranking, IIT Delhi takes the 38th position, edging out IIT Bombay, which is at 41. Five other IITs feature in the top 100, led by Kanpur and Madras just outside the top 50. Among traditional universities, Delhi takes the lead at 81. It is ranked among the top 25 in Asia by employers and top 40 by academics. Calcutta ranks highly on student exchanges. It is second in Asia for outbound exchanges and 52nd for inbound.
4th year in a row, Cambridge pips Oxford as UK’s top univ

London: Britain’s Cambridge University pipped arch-rival Oxford for the fourth year in a row to be named the best varsity in the country by an education guide. Cambridge is again the country’s leading university, topping the Complete University Guide’s 2015 ranking of UK varsities which was published online on Monday.

Oxford retained second place in the ranking of 123 universities, with the London School of Economics and Political Science placed third. The Top Ten remain unchanged compared to last year. The Universities of Southampton (16th) and Newcastle (20th) entered the Top 20, while Edinburgh (21st) and King’s (28th) dropped out, The Student Times reported.

The top ten UK universities named by the guide were Cambridge, Oxford, LSE, St Andrews, Durham, Imperial College London, Warwick, Bath, University College London and Exeter.

Both Imperial and UCL slipped slightly, from fourth to sixth, and from seventh to ninth, respectively. 

PIO is Birmingham varsity chancellor

Indian-origin entrepreneur Karan Bilimoria has been appointed as the new chancellor of the UK’s University of Birmingham.

India-born Bilimoria, the founder of Cobra Beer, will take up his role at an installation ceremony in July. “I am honoured and humbled to have been asked to be chancellor of this university with its vibrant, global community,” he said. 

AGENCIES
More bang for buck at IIM-A than Ivy League

Institute 4th on The Economist list of global B-schools in return on investment

BS REPORTER
Ahmedabad, 12 May

Studying at the Indian Institute of Management, Ahmedabad (IIM-A) gives you more bang for your buck than going to Harvard or Stanford does, according to a study conducted by The Economist magazine.

The new ranking has placed IIM-A much ahead of its Ivy League competitors such as Harvard, Stanford, Kellogg and Wharton. In fact, IIM-A is the world’s fourth best B-school when it comes to “Good-value MBAs”, the study says.

IIM-A’s two-year management programme offers a return on investment (RoI) of 44 per cent, as compared with Harvard’s 15 per cent and Stanford’s 14 per cent. Other top B-schools such as INSEAD, France (24 per cent), Harvard, Stanford, Northwestern Kellogg (10 per cent) and Pennsylvania Wharton (6 per cent) are ranked at 12th, 17th, 18th, 19th and 20th positions, respectively, according to the chart published by The Economist.

HEC Paris (67 per cent), Aston Britain (64 per cent) and University of Hong Kong (60 per cent) rank higher than IIM-A.

The ranking is based on the cost of an MBA programme at selected business schools after taking into account tuition fees and foregone salary, The Economist stated. The RoI is calculated on the basis of the difference between pre- and post-MBA salary divided by the total cost of the programme.

So, for the fees that one pays at IIM-A and the previous salary that one foregoes, the passing graduate gets a higher return from the immediate compensation package earned through placement.

The Economist states that the RoI is calculated based on the immediate return in less than two years. "Still, Wharton alumni are more likely to top the greasy pole in the long run," the magazine says.

Two-year courses at prestigious US institutions are the most expensive, The Economist says. An MBA at Wharton costs $330,000 on average, in part because it enrolls well-paid executives. But the immediate return on such degrees is small. Graduates tend to land jobs just a few notches above the ones they left. Cheaper, shorter MBAs around the world offer better returns. Students at HEC make enough extra money upon graduation to pay for their degrees in less than two years. Schools, such as IESE, that enrol lots of students from poor countries who then find jobs in the West also fare well, the magazine says.
IIM-A 4th in The Economist’s good-value B-schools

OUR BUREAU

Chennai, May 12

The Economist has ranked India’s premier B school, Indian Institute of Management Ahmedabad, fourth among 20 leading schools globally in terms of return on investment for its students.

In its latest issue dated May 10, the newspaper ranks HEC Paris as the B school which offers the best returns of 67 per cent after one year, post an MBA.

Aston in the UK ranks second while the University of Hong Kong is third. Schools such as Insead, Harvard and Kellogg rank much lower; the latter is ranked 19th. The Economist’s chart shows the cost of an MBA at selected B-schools after taking into account tuition fees and forgone salary. Two-year courses, it says, at prestigious American institutions are the most expensive.

An MBA at Wharton costs $330,000 on an average, in part because it enrols well-paid executives.

But, it goes on to say that the immediate returns on such degrees is small as graduates tend to land jobs just a few notches above the ones they left. Cheaper shorter MBAs around the world offer better returns. IIM-A offers a 44 per cent return on investment, according to the newspaper. Still, Wharton alumni are “more likely to top the greasy pole in the long run,” it adds.

Ashish Nanda, Director, IIM-A, said: “The Economist calculations are one measure of how economically rewarding our students find the IIMA experience to be. But returns from education at IIMA go beyond purely pecuniary returns to self. Our alumni consistently report that they find the IIMA learning experience life-changing.”
Govt, IIT-B Launch Solar Project to Reduce Kerosene Subsidy

SHREYA JAI & RAJEV JAYASWAL
NEW DELHI

The government has joined hands with IIT Bombay to implement cost-effective solar powered lighting solutions for rural population that will help save 36 million litres of kerosene and slash the subsidy bill on the polluting fuel by about ₹30,000 crore a year.

The scheme will be implemented jointly by the ministries of petroleum and new and renewable energy (MNRE), and funded through state-run oil firms' corporate social responsibility (CSR) fund, government officials said. The ambitious programme will light up the lives of about 47% of the country's population that lives mostly in villages, they said.

"Fuel conservation is the focus of India's energy policy and the oil ministry is committed to reduce consumption of kerosene, which is a major health hazard. We have significantly cut diesel subsidy and through solar scheme we intend to reduce kerosene subsidy, which is more than ₹29,000 crore," a senior oil ministry official said.

IIT Bombay started a programme last year to distribute solar lamps to students living in non-electrified areas of the country. As the central government gives 30% subsidy on cost of solar lamps, the institute contacted the MNRE to support its community development programme.

Looking at the attractive opportunity to reduce kerosene usage, the oil ministry decided to be part of the programme and asked oil companies to divert their CSR fund to this initiative. The combined annual CSR fund of the state-run oil firms is about ₹1,000 crore.

"MNRE, through its subsidy, is paying 30% of the cost of the lamp while 50% will come from institutional donors, mostly from the oil companies through their CSR fund. The remaining 20% of the amount will be paid by the beneficiary," said a senior MNRE official.

The lamps are not given free of cost as the government wishes to propagate the importance of solar energy and distributing it for free will negate the intention of replacing kerosene with solar energy, the official said.

"Demand for solar-based lighting products is going up every year because of its viability and sustainability. Tracking the replacement of kerosene is difficult but widespread acceptance of solar as the primary fuel will help bring energy security where it is needed the most," said Tarun Kapoor, joint secretary, MNRE.

The programme also aims to increase employability by developing skills to assemble lamps locally and then distribute them. The total cost of the project is ₹48 crore, of which about ₹14.81 crore will be disbursed by the MNRE, sourced from the National Clean Energy Fund. Over the past three months, about ₹10 crore has already been given to IIT-B, through which 27,000 lamps were assembled and distributed in Madhya Pradesh.
New gene atlas to help battle diseases

Researchers have provided insights into how genetic variants influence complex disease and drug response through metabolic pathways.

The team has linked 145 genetic regions with more than 400 molecules involved in human metabolism in human blood. This atlas of genetic associations with metabolism provides many new opportunities to understand the molecular pathways underlying associations with common, complex diseases.

The team measured the levels of a large number of metabolites, both those already known and many as yet uncharacterised, from many different metabolic pathways.

They found 90 new genetic associations, trebling the figure of known genetic associations with metabolites. In many of the cases where metabolites were known, the team were able to link the molecule to gene function.

They mapped genes to their likely substrates or products and linked these to a number of conditions, including hypertension, cardiovascular disease and diabetes.

They further found that these genetic regions map preferentially to genes that are currently targeted in drug-development programmes. This provides new opportunities to assess genetic influences on drug response, and to assess the potential for existing drugs to treat a wide range of diseases.

Dr Eric Fauman, study co-author and Associate Research Fellow from Pfizer Inc said this work provides an important new window into the genetic variation underlying human metabolism. He said through targeted Precision Medicine and by linking human disease genes to in vivo biological markers, they hope to enhance their ability to deliver impactful new medicines for patients across a variety of disorders.
IIT-JEEIns: A mobile app for IIT-JEE aspirants

FE Online Posted online: Monday, May 12, 2014 at 0000 hrs

Bangalore: Meritnation.com, one of India’s largest online education company in the K12 space, now has introduced a mobile application ‘IIT-JEEIns’ that is set to ease the load of students preparing for IIT-JEE advanced. Offering a smart and quick way to revise your syllabus before the exam, the app helps you to revise formulae and equations on your mobile phone on the go and that too absolutely free!

With the IIT-JEEIns app students can now revise Physics, Chemistry and Math formulae and equations to help boost the last leg of their preparation. Students no longer need to shuffle through pages of notes and textbooks for revising important formulae – they can have a quick re-cap using this application. The timeliness of this app
has made it an instant hit with the students - the app has hit 2000 installs within 10 days of launch. The app although designed for mobiles, also works well with tablets and iPad.

“For students today, time is everything. Recognizing this need and in order to help them make the most of their preparation time, we launched this handy App to help students revise formulae & equations on the go as they prepare for IIT JEE,” said Mohan Prasad, IIT JEE Expert, Meritnation.com.

The IIT-JEEnius application is available on two mobile platforms – Android (for Android 2.3+) Google Play Store and on iOS (for iOS 5+) App Store.

### IIT-Indore to start shifting its campus from IET in June
— By FPJ Bureau, May 12, 2014 02:00 am


**It has permission to continue to operate from IET building till 2015 end but the IIT Indore has decided to leave early.**

**Read why?**

IIT Indore to vacate 2000 sqm space in IET building by June end. In a year, the institute would leave possession of all the area it has in IET building.

Some staff will be shifted to a temporary structure on its land in Simrol, rest to be sent to PACL campus.

**Indore:** With the setting up of a temporary structure at its land in Simrol, the Indian Institute of Technology Indore has decided to shift its campus, in a phase-wise, from the building of Institute of Engineering Technology (IET). The IIT-Indore has written to IET Director Sanjeev Tokekar that it would vacate 2000 square meter of space in the IET building by June end.

“The IIT-Indore has two blocks M and E of the IET in its possession. It will vacate E block in June,” said Tokekar.

The IIT-Indore has permission to operate from the IET campus till December 2015 but it’s believed to be packing early as pressure to construct and shift to its own campus is mounting on it from the Ministry of Human Resources and Development that had set deadline of June-2013 for the same to this IIT and other new IITs.
Sources said that the IIT Indore had setup a temporary structure at Simrol and it would shift some administrative staff there to show to the MHRD that it has started process of shifting to its own campus. At present, the IIT Indore provisionally functions from three campuses – IET, PACL and Silver Spring.

While academic activities of IIT Indore are run from IET and PACL campuses, its residential quarters are located on Silver Spring campus. The IIT Indore which was established in 2009 had started its operation from the IET campus of the Devi Ahilya Vishwavidyalaya (DAVV).

As per the initial MoU with the DAVV, the IIT Indore had to vacate the IET campus by December 2012. At that time, it was planned that the IIT would complete construction of its campus on 500-acre of land allocated to it at Simrol by December 2012 and subsequently move there. But nothing went to the plan.

In a setback to the IIT Indore, the Ministry of Environment and Forests (MoEF) in 2010 denied permission of diversion of 80 hectares forestland which was a part of the 500 acres of land meant for the institute. The development had hit the construction plan of the IIT and forced it to request the DAVV to let it continue its operation from the IET building till 2015.

The request initially was rejected but with Central and State government pitching for the IIT, the DAVV agreed to the demand. But with the hike in the number of students and faulty members, the IIT realised that the IET building alone would not be able to fulfill its increasing space requirements and it rented another campus in Pithampur – PACL campus. Residential quarters in Silver Spring were rented in the institute’s establishment year itself. Before things get more complicated to the IIT, the MoEF approved its plea of diversion of forestland falling on the site meant for the institute campus.

The IIT Indore is now having possession of the entire 500 acres for the last two years but it could not complete construction of its campus. Just a temporary block has been setup wherein it is planning to move some administrative staff.

Basic science setup to be shifted to PACL

Sources in the IIT Indore said that the institute would shift its setup of basic science stream from IET building and shift it to PACL campus.

The basic science infrastructure is located in E block of IET building and administrative machinery is located in M block. Some employees of M block would be shifted to the temporary structure at Simrol site. In a year time, the M block would also be vacated and entire administrative staff be shifted to Simrol.

IIT-Madras Campus Qualifies as Forest

By J Santhosh - CHENNAI

Published: 13th May 2014 07:33 AM

http://www.newindianexpress.com/cities/chennai/IIT-Madras-Campus-Qualifies-as-Forest/2014/05/13/article2221726.ece

The state forest department has endorsed the stance of IIT-Madras that its campus was not situated in a reserved forest area. However, citing a 1996 Supreme Court judgment, the department argued that vast areas of the campus still qualify as forest and hence the institution violated law by not getting permission for construction activities in the campus as mandated by the apex court.
Wildlife warden K Geethanjali, in an affidavit submitted before the southern bench of the National Green Tribunal on Monday, said the 383 acres of land originally classified as reserve forest was denotified by a government order in 1961 and subsequently assigned to IIT-Madras. While the area was not strictly classified as a reserve forest, the institution was still bound to get permission from the Central government for construction activities, the affidavit said.

The tribunal was hearing a petition filed by E Seshan, an environmental activist, stating that IIT-Madras, one of the premier technology institutions in the country, violated the law by felling a large number of trees on its campus for construction activities. Seshan had alleged that the institute failed to get permission from state or central authorities for the construction. The tribunal had already issued an interim order restraining IIT-Madras from carrying out any further construction activity on the campus.

In its affidavit filed on May 5, IIT-Madras had maintained that the campus was not forest land.

However, the Forest Department on Monday argued that as large areas of the campus qualify to be forest due to tree cover and presence of wild animals and hence comes under the provisions of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980. “There are large undeveloped/unutilised areas in the campus, which, because of presence of wild animals and tree cover qualify to be a forest as defined by the Hon’ble Supreme Court of India. The IIT-Madras can develop the area, which is qualified to be a forest, only with the permission of Government of India,” read the affidavit.

Further, the forest department also cited that the IIT-M campus falls within 10 km of the Guindy National Park and hence prior permission is mandatory for any new building above 20,000 sqm. An inspection by the wildlife warden found that buildings spread about 84,040 sqm is under construction on the campus. These constructions are being made in the areas of existing or demolished buildings.

The department argued that IIT-M should not develop the forest areas without permission from competent authorities and must not do anything harmful to the habitat and movement of wildlife. The institution must be directed to plant ten saplings for every tree it had cut on the campus so far. In another affidavit filed by CMDA, the agency said IIT-Madras had submitted proposals seeking permission for construction and they were under consideration.