CBSE students to bear brunt of new IIT admission rules

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MUMBAI: The new eligibility criterion for the prestigious Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs) is likely to hit CBSE students the hardest, judging by an analysis of those admitted this year to IIT-Kanpur.

From next year, regardless of their scores on the IIT joint entrance exam, candidates will have to be within the top 20 percentile of their Class 12 boards in order to be admitted to an IIT.

Of the batch of 398 general category students admitted to IIT-K this year, 14 would not have been eligible if this rule had been applicable.

Of those 14 students, 12 are from schools affiliated to the Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE).

Students in more competitive boards such as the CBSE face a disadvantage because it is tougher to be in the top 20 percentile here. Data from the Council of Boards of School Education, for instance, showed that the 20 percentile cut-off would have been 77.8% for CBSE candidates and 58% for West Bengal state board students this year.

“This means that if students want a higher percentile, they should leave CBSE schools and join state board schools,” IIT-K professor Dheeraj Sanghi wrote in his analysis.
वे चुटकियों में हल कर रहे हैं आईआईटी छात्रों की मुश्किलें

पढ़ाई

वे हैं आईआईटी मंटर्स प्रोग्राम

उन्मिता वाजपेयी, बेंगलुरू

वे उनकी समस्याएं हल करते हैं जो देश का सबसे कठिन माने जाने वाला इंदिरानाथ, आईआईटी एंट्रेंस पास कर चुके होते हैं। वे हैं आईआईटी मंटर्स। यह प्रोग्राम उनकी मदद करता है जिन्हें आईआईटी में पढ़ाई के दौरान नहीं समझ आता कि उनके प्रेस्कोर पूर्ण नहीं है या रहे जानकारी स्कूल में ने हरेश 90 पौरसंह के ऐसा नंबर पाते हैं। या उनकी जिन्हें आईआईटी से पास होने के नाम करार करने से कोई मुश्किल आती है।

तीन पूर्ण छात्र इंटर स्कूल अक्तू की गई गई इस प्रभाव से आज लगभग 500 मेंटर चुके हैं और 2000 से ज्यादा आईआईटी फेडरल है चुके हैं।

अशोक दास, राजेश मिश्रा और वीरज गुप्ता ने यह प्रोग्राम 2010 में जन्म से लिया जब उनके अस्पताल रोहन गुप्ता का केस आया। आईआईटी रोड़ पूर्व के मैक्लिग इंग्लैंड यूएन के छात्र रोहन को दर था कि सात वर्ष रोजाने में पूर्ण नहीं कर पा रहे। वे दास कहते हैं कि पटना-रोड़ जैसे कि आईआईटी में टीवर्स का प्रसाधन बनना अनुमति नहीं है। अशोक के केस वही आ रहा है।

अशोक दास ने अमेरिका से पीएचडी की और वहां वहां साल बाहर किया। उनके बेंगलुरू में सोचने फ्लोरिडा पर भारत करने वाली कंपनी स्रोतवाहण के साइंस है। उनके साथी राजेश मिश्रा हॉटेल में जब तक कर रहे हैं और वीरज सीजेबर्न पेट्ट करने वाली कंपनी के मालिक है।

राजेश कहते हैं आपके पास आपके अमेरिका के कौन जीवन नहीं है। इसके पूर्व छात्र नोनेना संगठन में। देश के अलग-अलग हिस्सों में संस्थाओं से आईआईटी को अपने कॉलेज के गाड़ी में एडवर्ड करने में अस्तर परेशानी होती है।

वीरज लेटे हैं प्रोग्राम से इतने सारे आईआईटी फाइंडर हुआ है कि उनके इंटरनेट के बच्चे भी मंटर्स के लिए एक्सप्रेस कर रहे हैं। हमारे मेंटर में 1965 में चैन अशोक कंधर भी है और 2009 में चैन के पास कृष्णन दीपक और दैव्य दुराल भी। मेंटर मेंटर नई चंद्रा की तरह आईआईटी रोड़ भरने ने लाइफ स्किक्स को अपने सिमरों में भाग लिया है।

हिंदी मैकरांड के आईआईटी में अपने बच्चों को स्कूल दिवस का सामना करना पड़ता है। उनके अशोक दास अपना ही उदारतावाद देने हैं। वे भी हिंदी मैकरांड में भी थे। लेकिन आईआईटी टीप किया।
आईआईटी खडगपुर के फेस्टिवल में 50 हजार से अधिक छात्र लेंगे भाग

नई दिल्ली (ए)। भारतीय प्रौद्योगिकी संस्थान (खडगपुर) द्वारा आयोजित छात्रों
का मशहूर फेस्टिवल ‘क्षितिज’ इस बार पहली फरवरी से चार फरवरी 2013 तक
होगा जिसमें पचार हजार से अधिक छात्रों के भाग लेने की संभावना है। यह पृष्टिया
का एक बड़ा फेस्टिवल है जिसमें इंजीनियरिंग तथा प्रबंधन के छात्र भाग लेते हैं।
यह फेस्टिवल 2004 से हर साल हो रहा है।

फेस्टिवल आयोजन समिति के महासचिव रूप क मुखर्जी ने बताया कि इस
फेस्टिवल में करीब 45 प्रतियोगिताओं के लिए
135 पुरस्कार दिए जाएंगे और कुल पुरस्कार
प्राप्त 60 लाख रुपये की होगी। फेस्टिवल
आयोजन समिति के महासचिव रूप क मुखर्जी
ने बताया कि कोई भी छात्र इस प्रतियोगिता में
नियुक्त भाग ले सकता है और वह
डब्ल्यूडब्ल्यूडब्ल्यू डब्ल्यू के डाट इंटर
अपना नाम अंजीकृत कर सकता है। फेस्टिवल आयोजन समिति के महासचिव रूप क मुखर्जी
ने बताया कि इस फेस्टिवल के विजेताओं को एसीएम तथा एससीएम जैसी
अन्तरराष्ट्रीय ख्याति प्राप्त संस्थाएं प्रमाण पत्र देती है जिसका विषय में काफी महत्व
है। दूसरे फेस्टिवल में नोबेल पुरस्कार विजेता अर्थशास्त्री जेम्स मिल्लर, प्रथम
भारतीय अंतरिक्ष यात्री राकेश शर्मा, विकीपीडिया के संस्थापक जिम्मी बेल्स, फेन्ड्राइव के निर्माता अजय भट्ट, के अलावा प्रधान अभिनेता नसीरुद्दीन सही एवं
नासा के लोगों को भी आमंत्रित किया गया था।
IIT Kharagpur starts entrepreneurship drive

HT Correspondent

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INDORE: To foster entrepreneurship the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Kharagpur began its Entrepreneurship Awareness Drive in the city. The drive was held at the IES-IPS Academy by Palak Jain, associate manager, E-cell, IIT Kharagpur, on Friday. It will also cover various other cities of the country.

City’s leading entrepreneurs, chairperson of PT education Sandeep Manudhane, managing director of I-Interact learning solution Pranav Sanghvi, founder of Innovation Ideators Dinesh Goyal were the chief speakers.

More than 500 students from various colleges of Indore attended the event.

The central theme highlighted by the speakers for budding entrepreneurs was to maintain their spirit to achieve their target. The event began with the inaugural ceremony and welcome by vice-principal of IES-IPS Academy Archana Kirti Choudhary.
Housecleaning now an office perk

Matt Richtel

San Francisco: Phil Libin, chief executive of Evernote, turned to his wife last year and asked if she had suggestions for how the software company might improve the lives of its employees and their families. His wife, who also works at Evernote, didn’t miss a beat: housecleaning.

Today Evernote’s 250 employees — every full-time worker, from receptionist to top executive — have their homes cleaned twice a month, free.

It is the latest innovation from Silicon Valley: the employee perk is moving from the office to the home. Facebook gives new parents $4,000 in spending money; Stanford School of Medicine is piloting a project to provide doctors with housecleaning and in-home dinner delivery. Genset offers take-home dinners and helps employees find last-minute baby sitters when a child is too sick to go to school.

These kinds of benefits are a departure from the upscale cafeteria meals, massages and other services intended to keep employees happy and productive while at work. And the goal is not just to reduce stress for employees, but for their families, too. If the companies succeed, the thinking goes, they will minimise distractions and sources of tension that can inhibit focus and creativity.

Now that technology has allowed work to bleed into home life, it seems that companies are trying to address the impact of home life on work. There is, of course, the possibility that relieving people of chores at home will simply free them up to work more. But David Lewin, a compensation expert and management professor at the University of California, Los Angeles, said he viewed the perks as part of a growing effort by American business to reward people with time and peace of mind instead of more traditional financial tools, like stock options and bonuses.

At Deloitte, the consulting firm, employees can get a backup care worker if an aging parent or grandparent needs help. The company subsidises personal trainers and nutritionists, and offers round-the-clock counselling service for help with issues like marital strife and infertility.

Companies are even finding ways to help employees with childcare. The thinking is that the more you minimise distractions, the more you unleash worker creativity.

"If you're coming home at the end of the day exhausted and you have a pile of cleaning to do, it's the kind of things that lead rapidly to burnout, and burned-out physicians don't give the best care," Dr. Valentine said. "We're trying to send a very strong message that the institution cares about you and about your life."

Some compensation experts argue these types of perks ultimately do little to attract employees and might obscure more fundamental problems at companies that have trouble retaining talent.

So 18 months ago, Stanford hired a consulting firm called Jump Associates to better understand why so many academic doctors feel burned out. The company videotaped them from the time they woke up through the workday and until they and their families went to sleep.

In one video, a kidney specialist told a story that shocked the researchers: while she was on maternity leave, she bought a minivan to ferry the children of friends and neighbours to school and sports practices.

That was the doctor explained, she would be able to ask for favours when she returned to work — and that, in theory, would enable her to juggle the dual demands of work and family.

Hannah Valentine, a cardiologist, professor and associate dean at the Stanford School of Medicine, said the university's experiment with helping out at home was part of a broader effort to support doctors, given their hyperkinetic pace of life.
'फूवाश' से छह सप्ताह तक सुरक्षित रहेंगे फल

वर्तकला

खाद्य आपूर्ति मंत्रालय के आकर्षण के अनुसार देश में प्रतिवर्ष 50 हजार करोड़ रुपये की फल एवं सब्जियों की बदाय हो जाती है। इसकी पुष्टि नहीं है कि इसका क्या समय तक भंडारण किया जा सकता। परंतु, आईआईटी दिल्ली ने 'फूवाश' नामक एक ऐसी तकनीक विकसित की है, जिससे अब छह सप्ताह तक फल-सब्जियों को सुरक्षित रखा जा सकता। आईआईटी ने हिमालय प्रदेश और दिल्ली में इस प्रौद्योगिकी के इस्तेमाल में रहत

- आईआईटी दिल्ली ने विकसित की तकनीक, जिससे फल-सब्जियों पर लगा दिया जा सकता है।
- प्रतिवर्ष में जमा किया जाने वाला सामरिक जमा रखा जा सकता है।

को प्रशिक्षण कार्यक्रम भी शुरू किया है।

आईआईटी दिल्ली के साइट पर विवादित विश्वविद्यालय के प्रोफेसर डॉ.एच.एप्स. चावला ने बताया कि 'फूवाश' एक प्रोक्रैक्टिक लेख, जो लाख से तीव्र विश्वास का भाग है। लाख चीजों के लिे से निकाला जाता है। इसे फलों और सब्जियों पर लगा दिया जाए तो यह छह सप्ताह तक सुरक्षित रह सकता है।

यह सत्ता लेख है जो एक-दो रुपये किलो के प्रयोग में स्थानांतर जाता है, इसलिए फलों को ताजा रखने के लिए इसका बड़ा उपयोग किया जा सकता है।

इससे कहीं रुपये की बाहरी की तुलना में सही है।

डॉ. चावला के अनुसार, 'फूवाश' एवं सब्जियों के रूप में किसी प्रक्रिया का कार्य नहीं होगा। तब, इससे एक पताका यह नहीं कि फलों, सब्जियों की

दूरदराज के अंतर्गत में भी पहुँचना संभव होगा। अभी खराब होने की बाधा से उड़े कई जहां पहुँचना संभव नहीं होता है।

खासकर उन दिनों में जो मौसम से हुआ संकट के लिए ऐसे फलों और सब्जियों को पहुँचा पानी मुक्त नहीं होता है।

आईआईटी दिल्ली ने हिमालय प्रदेश के बिलासपुर, थिमाम, सोलड कांगड़ा आदि जिलों में 'फूवाश' चलाने वाले के इस्तेमाल को लेकर प्रशिक्षण कार्यक्रम की शुरुआत की है। इसमें प्रबंधन, विश्वास, मंगलरा और आर्थिक फाउंडेशन मदद कर रहें हैं।

Open learning

Aadit Isaac/TNN

In line with the mandate of developing quality content and video lectures, etc. for students of the Institute of Lifelong Learning (ILL), DU, has created a database of study material. “This is in line with the vice-chancellor’s vision of making education for all a reality. We have created a comprehensive open education resource website for students (www.see.du.ac.in) through which students from any university will be able to access quality study material. New fellows have joined and are creating more material for the website in subjects like political science, geography, botany, economics, commerce, and history for students at both the UG level in English and Hindi,” says Ramesh Gautam, director, ILL.

Earlier, North and South Campus had separate ILL portals, but they have been merged to provide a virtual learning environment. The portal is hosted in the DU domain. “Under the plan of the HRD ministry, the site has been made interactive and engages with students through audio-visuals, interviews, podcasts, etc. While the learning process has been made interesting through the use of quiz, labs, MCQs, interactive modules.”

The website will be inclusive for students with special needs (audio-video). The material has been designed in a way that students can download the PDF version, print the course material, also browse through a video as well as go through the transcript of the video,” inform Gautam. The aim of the project is to accommodate students from the School of Open Learning and the non-collegiate board and those who study in the Hindi medium. “About 70% of students study through the Hindi medium and struggle to have access to quality material,” he says.

The website has links to the open courseware of Massachusetts Institute of Technology, India Gandhi National Open University and IIT to trigger critical thinking and going beyond one’s course.

“We are also planning to launch a cluster of e-journals in humanities and social sciences where we would publish the best research and student journals,” added Saumanyo Satpathy, joint director, ILL.
Tale of two IITians

Rajesh Moudgil

Two IITians hogged the limelight in Chandigarh last week for opposite reasons: one, an IAS officer, for brave, single-handed fight against the shady land deals of the country’s most powerful; and another for being the youngest IPS officer probably to have been apprehended by the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) on bribe charge.

No prizes for identifying them. Ashok Khemka, from the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Kharagpur (West Bengal), is the 1991-batch Haryana-cadre Indian Administrative Service (IAS) officer who hit the headlines for taking on Robert Vadra, son-in-law of Congress president Sonia Gandhi, and DLF, the country’s leading realty giant.

The other IITian is Chandigarh’s superintendent of police (city), Deshraj Singh, accused of accepting Rs 1 lakh as bribe from a subordinate officer. Deshraj, 33, the 2008-batch Indian police service (IPS) officer, is known for keeping a flamboyant lifestyle in his below-two-year stint in Chandigarh, and Khemka for his frugal living and being shunted 41 times in his 20 years of service. Deshraj, who received the MTech degree from IIT, Kanpur (Uttar Pradesh), was assistant engineer in a software company and assistant garrison engineer in the military engineering service (MES), ministry of defence, before joining the police.

Khemka, computer science graduate from IIT-Kharagpur and holder of doctorate degree from the Tata Institute of Fundamental Research, Mumbai, also has a business administration (MBA) degree.

Khemka spent his career living in an ordinary transit flat with (and sometimes without) an official vehicle, while Deshraj got a spacious official bungalow in Sector 28, Chandigarh, and enjoyed optimum comforts and swanky cars around. No one can say if Khemka will be able to provide his family with a comfortable life next and if Deshraj will come out clean, given the kind of political and police systems we have.

However, Khemka with his head held high to the camera, has earned an unending stream of compliments from his alma mater. Deshraj, on the other hand, even if framed, had his head down in embarrassment.

PS: This article means to cast no aspersion on the quality of education in the IITs, which remain the real temples of education with scholarly faculties and honest learners, save exceptions.
Engineering in the UK

The UK has a rich engineering heritage and is home to several world-class engineering companies such as Rolls-Royce and BAE Systems. Some of UK's recent engineering achievements include developing Formula One racing cars, the state-of-the-art Eurofighter Typhoon and the Channel Tunnel Rail Link.

A UK engineering qualification is recognised worldwide and a range of courses are on offer — starting from civil, mechanical, electrical, electronic, aeronautical, automotive and chemical to marine engineering. There are also qualifications in general engineering, although some of them will lead you to specialise to a certain extent in a particular branch or area of engineering.

With a plethora of courses on offer, it is vital you do a thorough research to figure out what suits you. If you know the branch of engineering in which you wish to specialise, visit www.educationuk.in.org. If you are uncertain of the branch, read up about the 36 engineering institutes that represent the engineering profession (www.enpg.org.uk/institutions).

For degree courses, check whether the course is on EOUK’s list of accredited degree courses (www.enpg.org.uk/Registration/ACAD).

Always obtain the course prospectus or go through the online version. Find out whether you have the required entry qualifications, including the relevant English language level. You should check with the institutions you are interested in for the exact nature of the qualifications or experience, which they require.

The UK National Academic Recognition Information Centre (UK NARIC) (www.naric.org.uk) is the official source of information on the comparability of international qualifications with those in the UK. If you do not have the standard entry qualifications, some universities offer a foundation year providing remedial or conversion tuition before you start your BEng / MEng.

UCAS (the Universities and Colleges Admissions Service) has over 50,000 courses listed on 'course search': www.ucas.ac.uk/students/coursesearch. Apply for undergraduate degree courses, foundation degrees (England only) and Higher National Diploma through UCAS at www.ucas.com. For other courses, apply to the institutions directly.

There are many sources to consult about the quality of teaching and research. Look at the independent reviews conducted by the Quality Assurance Agency (www.qaa.ac.uk/students). The information available on the Unistats site (www.unistats.com) is helpful, as it compares job prospects, as well as student satisfaction rates. Apart from this, some newspapers such as The Times and the Guardian publish unofficial league tables.

Bear in mind other factors, such as cost, location and size of the institution, work experience opportunities, international mix of students on the programmes, provision of supervision for dissertations and available facilities. Don’t just consider London, there are good universities in the UK with much lower living costs than London, which provide a full range of engineering qualifications. For information on student visas, log on to www.ukba.homeoffice.gov.uk/visas.

The British Council organises weekly briefings, counselling events by UK institutions and Education UK exhibitions. The Education UK exhibition, one of the major events, will be held from November 24-25 (1pm-6pm) at British Council, Delhi. Detailed information can be found on www.educationuk-in.org.
Time UGC did a course correction

THE RECENT DEVELOPMENTS at University Grants Commission (UGC) are hardly becoming of the apex higher education regulator of the country. Appointment processes for top positions at the Commission are currently dogged by controversies that hint at intense lobbying, politicking, ego battles and turf wars. The UGC chairman’s selection process scrapped once has had to start afresh, the vice-chairman’s appointment is mired in court battles and the secretary’s appointment process now threatens to divide the Commission into factions.

If its own house is in such a bad shape, one is forced to wonder how the UGC can be expected to regulate institutions of higher education and devise strategies to make them globally competitive.

Other education regulators have done no better—in 2009 the AICTE top brass was accused of rampant corruption by CBI; the Council of Architecture and the HRD Ministry are engaged in a battle for control for over six years now; and the National Council for Teacher Education that regulates teacher training courses had to be virtually taken over by the HRD Ministry to bring it back on track.

That the Kapil Sibal-led ministry has failed to help effect a course correction at an important body like UGC, rankles. The ministry in turn points at a leadership crisis and dearth of academic talent that is undoing bodies like UGC.

Compounding the crisis is the HRD Ministry’s stance on appointments. Prolonged delays in selecting heads of significant education bodies like NCERT, National Book Trust and UGC have undermined them and affected their functioning, conjuring at the same time the image of the ministry as a headquarters of sort.

A fresh start could have been possible with the recommendation made by both the National Knowledge Commission and the Prof Yash Pal-led committee to set up a single National Council for Higher Education & Research to replace multiple regulatory bodies like UGC, AICTE, etc.

It is a pity that the NCHER Bill along with a clutch of other education Bills promising reform and quality in higher education are languishing in Parliament for nearly two years now, and unfortunately stare at an equally bleak future.

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देश में विदेशी डिग्री लेना और आसान

भारतीय छात्रों के लिए देश में विदेशी पेशेवर डिग्री लेना अब और आसान हो गया है। उन्हें देश में ही वही कोर्स और वही डिग्री मिल जाएगी जो विदेशी संस्थानों की एक सीमा के लिए उपलब्ध करती है।

अंतरराष्ट्रीय तकनीकी प्रशिक्षण (एआईसीटीई) के अनुसार, किसी विदेशी पेशेवर शिक्षण संस्थानों को अपने प्रशिक्षण स्तर पर यहां कॉर्स शुरू करने के लिए आपसी विश्वविद्यालयों की शर्तों में नहीं जाना पड़ेगा। बल्कि ये किसी भारतीय संस्थान से समझौता करके साझा करेंगे।

हालांकि इस पृष्ठ को लेकर विश्वविद्यालय आन्दोलन आयोग (यूजीसी) एवं एआईसीटीई में जबलपुर- आसान या जबलपुर-आसान का कई समार माना जा रहा था। यूजीसी ने कहा था कि उन्हीं विदेशी विश्वविद्यालयों की भारतीय विश्वविद्यालयों के साथ समझौता करके संयुक्त डिग्री चालू करना इनका इंतजार दी जाएगी। जो विश्व के टॉप 500 में गुनाह हो। इसके लिए टाइम्स रीटेन पुस्तकों से आधार होगा।

एआईसीटीई के चेयरमैन एस.एस. मंचा में बताया कि विदेशी विश्वविद्यालयों और संस्थानों की हर माह ही अलग अलग कक्षा के लिए उद्धार दी है। क्षेत्र 2013-14 सत्र से पेशेवर कोर्सों को इतिहास के अवशेष में लाएगा।

एआईसीटीई के अनुसार, विदेशी संस्थानों को इस शर्त पर आनुमति दी जाएगी कि जो इंजीनियरिंग विद्यालयों में दें रहे हैं, वही विदेशी कोर्स भी उनसे मिलाए। इसके अलावा शिक्षा के मामले पर एच.एस.एस. भारतीय पेशेवर कोर्सों के लिए भी प्रतिस्पर्धा माहौल प्रदान होगा।