

Minutes of the Joint Meeting of Councils of IITs, NITs and IIITs held under the Chairmanship of Shri Kapil Sibal, Hon'ble Minister for Human Resource Development on Monday, 28th May, 2012 at Vigyan Bhavan, New Delhi

The Chairman, IIT and NIT Councils welcomed all the participants (**Annexure-I**).

2. At the outset, the Joint Secretary, Technical Education brought out in detail as to how the proposed reforms in admission to undergraduate engineering programmes in the country has been under consideration of the Government over the two and half years. It was pointed out that 'in-principle' approval to the proposed Common Entrance Examination, with weightage to State Board results normalized on the basis of percentile formula, as recommended by the Ramasami Committee, was accorded by the IIT Council on 14th September, 2011. The same was also endorsed by the IIITs and the Council of NITs on 14.11.2011 and 18.11.2011, respectively. The proposal was further considered and endorsed 'in-principle' by the State Education Ministers in the Conference held on 22.2.2012.

3. It was explained by JS(TE) that the Government has also been in touch with IITs to understand and appreciate their views on the subject. Apart from constituting a Core Committee of senior academics who interacted with the faculties of some of the IITs, the Chairman of the IIT Council held meetings with the Chairmen, Board of Governors and Directors of IITs on April, 11, 2012. A meeting was also held with the All India IIT Faculty Federation on the same day. In view of the reservations expressed by the Federation, it was decided that the proposed reforms be discussed by the Senates of IITs which could thereafter be taken into consideration by the Council of IITs before arriving at a decision. The IIT Council in its meeting held on 12th May, 2012 considered the recommendations of the IIT Senates and deliberated in considerable detail various alternatives. There was unanimity that to strengthen school system it was necessary to accord due weightage to the performance of the students in class XII board examination. The concerns of the IIT fraternity were also sought to be addressed.

4. Based on the consensus that emerged in the aforesaid Council meeting, a detailed proposal for implementation of the admission procedure to be adopted by the Centrally Funded Technical Institutions (CFTIs), including IITs, as also by the States and

other institutions wanting to be part of the JEE was placed before the joint meeting for consideration. A copy of the said note is at **Annexure-II**. The broad contours of which were approved and authorised Chairman, IIT Council to effect changes if any required. Prof. Sanjay Dhande, Director, IIT Kanpur made a detailed power point presentation on the subject, highlighting the various stages of the evolution of the proposal, the rationale, eligibility criteria, the mythology of selection and governance structure that were proposed to be put in place. This was followed by an open house discussion.

5. The Joint Councils of IITs, NITs & IIITs considered various views that had emerged during the process of consultations. A strong body of opinion amongst the members of the Council was that the importance of the schooling system has to be revived in the larger public interest by giving due weightage to the performance of students in the Class XII Board examinations and at the same time maintaining the credibility and integrity of admissions to higher educational institutions. After detailed deliberations following unanimous consensus emerged:-

(i) A Joint Entrance Examination for admission to the undergraduate programmes in engineering would be conducted in two parts, JEE-MAIN and JEE-ADVANCED.

(ii) The Class XII Board/equivalent marks normalized on percentile basis through an appropriate formula plus the marks obtained in the JEE-MAIN examination, with equal weightage, would be used by IITs for purposes of gating/screening. Only a fixed number of candidates (five times the number of the seats for admission in the IIT system or a pre-fixed cut-off) screened on the basis of merit assessed on the basis of cumulative score of normalized School Board marks and performance in JEE-MAIN examination would be eligible to be considered for admission. The ranking for admission to undergraduate programmes in IITs would be based entirely on the performance in the JEE-ADVANCED examination from amongst the candidates screened through this process.

(iii) For all other Centrally Funded Institutions, there would be 40% weightage for performance in Class XII Board marks normalized on percentile basis through

an appropriate formula, 30% weightage for performance in JEE-MAIN and 30% weightage in JEE-ADVANCED and a combined merit decided accordingly.

(iv) JEE-MAIN tests shall be multiple choice objective type paper whereas the nature and modalities of the JEE-ADVANCED shall be determined by the Joint Admission Board of IITs.

(v) The proposed changes will be effective from the year 2013 and both CFTIs and CBSE would work jointly to facilitate implementations.

(vi) The Joint Admission Board (JAB) of the IIT system would have complete control on matters such as paper setting, evaluation and preparation of the merit list, etc. over the JEE-ADVANCED and CBSE would provide the administrative support for conduct of the examination. For the conduct of the JEE-MAIN examination an expanded Joint Admission Board shall be constituted including the NIT system, other CFTIs and State Government representatives in an appropriate manner. CBSE will provide the administrative and logistic support for the conduct of JEE-MAIN examination across the country.

(vii) The process of establishing co-ordination between COBSE & JAB-IITs for implementation of the core curriculum in sciences and maths across the CBSE, ICSE and State Boards shall be put in place immediately.

(viii) Those students who have appeared in the Class XII Board examinations in 2012 and wish to improve upon their performance can appear again for the Board examinations in 2013. CBSE and State Boards would make appropriate arrangements to facilitate this through a special dispensation.

(ix) The transparency processes established by the IIT system presently and in AIEEE-2012 shall be adopted for the JEE-MAIN and JEE-ADVANCED too.

6. It was noted that a meeting of State Education Ministers' is scheduled to be held on 5th June where the participation of States in the common national test process would be deliberated upon. States would have the freedom to join in the process and have the autonomy to determine their own relative weightages to normalized Class XII Board marks, performance in JEE-MAIN and JEE-ADVANCED.

The meeting ended with a vote of thanks to the Chair.