

Item No. 17	To discuss the issue of encroachment into privileges/rights/autonomy of Senate on matters pertaining to admissions to various UG programmes of IIT Kanpur.
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The floor was opened for discussion. During the discussion, the following points were made by various members.

1. As regards the academic autonomy of an IIT is concerned, the respective Senate is supreme particularly in the matters related to admission and academics. IIT Council is encroaching on Senate's power. It should not be allowed.
 2. Deciding the admission process for IITs without obtaining any views from the different IIT Senates is an infringement of their autonomy. Any implementation for common entrance examination should be delayed till all the Senates have had chance to discuss the report and to make their recommendations.
 3. The new document, which is supposed to be the implementation plan for the Ramasami report, is at variance with the report on several crucial aspects. The document, without being able to remove the infirmities of the Ramasami report, introduces several of its own. It is ill-motivated, methodologically unsound, and sacrifices content entirely in favour of form. It request IITs to give up the IIT JEE, an examination known the world over for its ability to identify the crème de la crème, without providing any reasoning as to why such a step will be detrimental to the IIT system. As such, there is absolutely no justification to agree to the action plan as enunciated in the documents.
 4. It is suggested that an external evaluation from an independent agency may be carried out about how JEE is doing.
 5. It has taken 50 years long to develop the JEE system, it cannot be trashed out.
 6. If the autonomy is in danger, a legal course of action may be adopted.
 7. As per the report, the board marks will include PCM+ one language subject + one elective subject. At CBSE in 12th class, a student take five subject PCM + English + one elective (out of Physical education, a computer language e.g. C, C++, etc., Sanskrit, economics, fine arts, biology, etc.). Why should the marks of the elective subject form the basis of deciding AIR in JEE? No reasoning has been given. Board marks should not be included in deciding AIR in JEE due to several reasons e.g. cheating, copying, impersonation, bribery, etc.
 8. There will be a total loss of faith in the impartiality of the IIT selections if the board marks were to be included for determining entrance to IIT. That would certainly be a cause for anguish to many honest aspiring students across the whole country. The inclusion of 12th and 10th examination marks as qualifying marks for the IIT JEE should not have any direct role in selections.
 9. We need to demonstrate our conviction as strongly as possible by coordinating decisions of the Senate of all IITs under the Technology Act and propose a complete alternative.
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10. The main and advance part is retained in the format of IIT-JEE. It is conducted only by the IITs for the benefit of all others. A particular Group of Institutions is free to use its own formula or criteria, as has been proposed for private institutions. We, the IITs under the ACT, should use the Board Marks for eligibility.
11. JEE examination 2013 will continue in its present form and other academic bodies may follow a different examination system.

After every one had a chance to express his/her views, Senate unanimously resolved that:

Resolution 1.

The Senate of IIT Kanpur notes with grave concern the IIT Council decision (Minutes of the meeting held on 14 September 2011) entailing changes in the IIT admission process without the matter being referred to the Senates of the various IITs. The Senate reiterates that student admissions to IIT Kanpur must be in accordance with the Ordinances of IIT Kanpur as provided for in the Institutes of Technology Act of 1961. The Senate is committed to exploring all avenues to protect its academic autonomy as enshrined in the Act.

Resolution 2.

The document issued by the Secretariat of the IIT Council (Reference no. D.O.F. No. 42-1/2012-TS-I dated 03.04.2012) which is supposed to be the implementation plan for the Ramasami Committee report, is at variance with the report on several crucial grounds. The document, without being able to remove the infirmities of the Ramasami report, introduces several of its own. It is ill-conceived, methodologically unsound, and sacrifices content entirely in favour of form. It requires IITs to give up the IIT JEE without providing any reasoning as to why such a step will not be detrimental to the IIT system. The Senate of IIT Kanpur finds no justification for agreeing to the action plan as enunciated in the document.

The meeting ended with vote of thanks to the Chair.

Approved

Sd/-

Sanjay G Dhande
Director & Chairman Senate

Dated – 18.4.2012

- Copy to:**
- 1) All members and Special Invitees of the Senate for their information, record and comment(s), if any.
 - 2) All faculty, who are not members of the Senate, for their information only.


R K Sachan
Acting Registrar & Secretary Senate