

Economic Times ND 28/03/2014 P-1

## **Inflation is Not Just About Onions, MBA Costs to go up by 19%**

**10 top B-schools set to hike fee for Class of 2016 citing rising operational costs**  
Sreeradha D Basu,

At least 10 of the country's top B-schools have either hiked fees or are proposing an increase of anywhere between 6-19% for the Class of 2016, citing inflation and rising operational costs.

While the likes of XLRI, International Management Institute (IMI), MDI-Gurgaon, SP Jain Institute of Management & Research, XIM-Bhubaneswar and IIM-Ranchi have already approved fee hikes, others including IIM-Calcutta, IIM-Kozhikode, IIM-Udaipur and WeSchool will decide over the next two-three weeks. Estimates suggest the hikes will be in the range of Rs50,000 to Rs2.5 lakh, depending on the institutes.

These fee hikes — including those under consideration — come at a time MBA's popularity seems to have waned somewhat. Nonetheless, most B-schools say these hikes simply couldn't be put off given inflation, higher administrative expenses and the rising salary levels of faculty members.

Some institutes such as IIM-Calcutta, for instance, have not implemented a fee hike for four years now. It had last hiked fees by 50% to Rs13.5 lakh in 2010. "The decision will be taken at the board meeting in April," said IIM-Calcutta Director Saibal Chattopadhyay. While he declined comment on the quantum of increase, two senior faculty members told ET the IIM-C faculty council was in favour of raising the fees to Rs16 lakh, up almost 19%. "Otherwise, there is tremendous pressure on faculty to engage in other revenue-generating activities," said the faculty member.

The move may affect the choice of institute for some students, though availability of educational loans will mitigate the impact. "Fees do play a role at the time of final selection of an institute especially for students with multiple offers in hand," said Ajay Antony, VP, Triumphant Institute of Management Education, a leading coaching chain for MBA entrance exams.

"Generally, students don't mind paying more for a well-established B-school. But where relatively new institutes are involved, fees may have a role." Adds Sumit Mitra, head (group HR and corporate services), Godrej Industries: "Students know that when it comes to the top management institutes, they will get their money's worth even if there

is a fee hike. Also, with education loans easily available, a fee hike is hardly a deterrent."

IIM-Udaipur, which currently charges Rs8 lakh for the two-year programme, will also be pushing for an increase of Rs1 lakh in its March 31 board meeting, said its Director Janat Shah. "We are aware that a huge EMI affects the choices students make. Having said that, we have to cover our expenses and this will be the first time we are increasing fees since we came into existence," said Shah.

IIM-Ranchi hiked fees by 16% from Rs 9 lakh to Rs10.5 lakh due to higher expenditure, said the institute's director BB Chakraborty.

Older IIMs at Ahmedabad and Bangalore already charge Rs16.6 lakh andRs17 lakh, respectively, for the twoyear post-graduate programme in management. After two consecutive hikes in 2012 and 2013, they have decided against increasing fees this year. Nor will IIM-Tiruchirapalli, IIM-Kashipur or even IIM-Lucknow, which bucked the trend last year by cutting fees by 10% to Rs10.8 lakh.

<http://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/news-by-industry/services/education/mba-costs-to-go-up-by-19-top-b-schools-set-to-hike-fee-for-2016/articleshow/32808262.cms>

**Hindustan Times ND 28/03/2014 p.19**

## **IIM- Ahmedabad organises merit award function**

An award function was held at IIM- Ahmedabad, a day before the Convocation, to commemorate the scholastic and meritorious performance of the graduating students. The awards were presented by Malay Mukherjee, CEO & MD, IFCI Ltd in presence of Prof. Ashish Nanda, Dir, IIM-Ahmedabad and chairpersons of various academic programmes.

**Tribune, 28/03/2014 P-11**

## **Higher learning rich in size, poor in quality**

**Dinesh K. Gupta**

INDIA has been ranked 60th in "The Global Competitiveness Report 2013-2014", released recently by the World Economic Forum, out of the 148 economies that were evaluated on a number of factors, primarily grouped as basic requirements, efficiency enhancers, and innovation and sophistication factors.

The evaluated economies have been further classified as factor driven, efficiency driven and innovation driven. India falls in the factor-driven economies group. China (Rank 29),

Indonesia (38) and South Africa (53) are among the efficiency-driven economies, and Switzerland (1), Singapore (2), Finland (3), Germany (4), the USA (5) and Taiwan (12) under the innovation-driven economies. The Report stresses the importance of vitality and vibrancy of higher education and training if a nation intends to migrate from the cluster of 'innovation poor' nations to that of 'innovation rich' nations.

### **India slipping**

It will be apt to closely study the global ranking of Indian universities. The Academic Ranking of World Universities (ARWU) of top 500 universities released by Shanghai Jiao Tong University (SJTU) is considered to be one the most trust worthy global university rankings as it follows a transparent methodology and uses reliable data. The ARWU 2013 ranking carries 149 universities from the US, 28 from China, six from Brazil, two from Russia and one from India. The sole institution of India figuring in this highly competitive ranking is the Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore.

A comparison with ARWU 2009 reveals some disturbing facts. In 2009, the US had the distinction of having 160 universities, China two, Brazil six, Russia two, and India two (IISc, Bangalore, and IIT, Kharagpur). China has remarkably improved its higher education system over time and has substantially increased the number of institutions in the latest ranking.

Professor Shyam Sunder, James L Frank Professor of Accounting, Economics and Finance, at Yale School of Management, shared with me that US universities prefer Chinese students over Indian for highly specialised areas of research. As per the latest statistics released by the US Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs, the US has become number one destination for quality education as it has attracted the largest number of foreign students in higher education, numbering 8,19,644 in 2012-13, with 28.7 per cent originating from China and 11.8 per cent from India.

This calls for a dispassionate assessment of the higher education system in India to make it a global player in delivering quality education, especially when India positions itself as one of the fastest growing economies.

<http://www.tribuneindia.com/2014/20140328/edit.htm#6>

**Sports:**

### **Srinivasan may Leave Pitch Today, Cloud Over CSK & RR**

**Team franchisees, broadcasters and advertisers worry about losses as SC observations cast doubt over future of BCCI president and IPL**

**OUR BUREAU NEW DELHI**

ET.28.03.2014

The Board of Control for Cricket in India and the Indian Premier League were thrown into turmoil on Thursday when the Supreme Court proposed that BCCI President N Srinivasan be replaced by an eminent cricketer such as Sunil Gavaskar. It also

recommended the suspension of Chennai Super Kings (CSK) and Rajasthan Royals from this year's IPL as owners of both teams are facing allegations of betting and match-fixing.

The suspension of IPL heavyweight CSK, owned by Srinivasan's India Cements and led by India captain Mahendra Singh Dhoni, and last year's finalist Rajasthan Royals (RR) will put a question mark on this year's edition of IPL, which is scheduled to start in the United Arab Emirates in a few weeks. Former board presidents and others have already called for this year's tournament to be suspended. Representatives of teams, sponsors and advertisers said they were apprehensive the board may announce the suspension of the tournament on Friday, when it replies to the court. Such a move would lead to sharp losses for all stakeholders. Board officials declined comment.

Title sponsor PepsiCo, which has committed . 400 crore over five years to IPL, declined comment. The company's annual plan hinges on the tournament, which is played during the peak summer season.

CVL Srinivas, CEO of GroupM, the mediabuying agency for PepsiCo, said, "It is too early to take any decision (on whether to advise clients to stay away from IPL) as we don't know which way the scenario will pan out. We will get more clarity in days to come and then weigh the options for our clients."

<http://epaper.timesofindia.com/Default/Scripting/ArticleWin.asp?From=Archive&Source=Page&Skin=ETNEW&BaseHref=ETD/2014/03/28&PageLabel=1&EntityId=Pc00116&ViewMode=HTML>

## Politics

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### **All Cong Leaders Should Retire at 70, Says Jairam**

**Rahul aide says leaders above 70 should get advisory position even as BJP readies to take on the Gandhis**

**RAJESH RAMACHANDRAN NEW DELHI**

Congress leader Jairam Ramesh has suggested a retirement age of 70 years for leaders in his party and called for elders to become advisors and make way for youngsters, a suggestion that could trigger controversy and bring into the Grand Old Party the generational debate lately reverberating in BJP. Ramesh, who is the minister for rural development and is widely perceived to be close to Rahul Gandhi, told ET that if and when the Congress vice-president becomes PM, he will have a "young Cabinet", effectively ruling the old guard out of Congress scheme of things.

“A generational change is absolutely essential to renew any organisation. Otherwise, an organisation will ossify. There is no doubt that in Congress there is a generational shift taking place. This is to be welcomed. This is to be encouraged,” said Ramesh, who will turn 60 next month, in an interview. The 70-year marker could pretty much exclude several Cabinet heavyweights in the UPA government, starting with Prime Minister Manmohan Singh, from contesting elections and becoming ministers. **Generational Change in Congress** The prime minister at 81 years, Home Minister Sushil Kumar Shinde at 72 and Defence Minister AK Antony at 73 years have all crossed the retirement age suggested by the new leadership, as have a number of ministers and senior leaders who are well into their eighties and are still keen to contest. Other union ministers above 70 years include Railway Minister Malikarjun Kharge, 71, Science and Technology Minister Jaipal Reddy, 71, and 72-year-old Steel Minister Beni Prasad Verma. Finance Minister P Chidambaram is just two years short of the suggested new cut-off age. The generational change in Congress got underway last year with Congress President Sonia Gandhi handing over the levers of organisational power to her son. But older leaders continue to occupy key positions and there has been a lot of chatter of an old versus young tussle playing out in the party. Ramesh, a key strategist for Congress in the upcoming elections, denied talk of a clash between the two generations in the party and also refuted claims that he is leading the new brigade. He insisted the older generation was not sulking over the claims of the new leadership, but emphasised that leaders who are over 70 years of age must make way for younger ones. “No, I don’t think that they are sulking. People unfortunately in India don’t know when to exit... They hang on and on. That is why most mentors in India become tormentors. There are 80-year-olds who want to contest,” Ramesh said. The Rajya Sabha member while expressing keenness to contest elections said the generational shift should get accelerated: “Yes. I am very clear in my mind. People over the age of 70 should be accommodated in advisory positions. We are a nation of youngsters.”

<http://epaper.timesofindia.com/Default/Scripting/ArticleWin.asp?From=Archive&Source=Page&Skin=ETNEW&BaseHref=ETD/2014/03/28&PageLabel=1&EntityId=Ar00103&ViewMode=HTML>