

	State/UT	Number of Colleges
23.	Rajasthan	199
24.	Sikkim	3
25.	Tamil Nadu	290
26.	Tripura	13
27.	Uttar Pradesh	493
28.	Uttaranchal	35
29.	West Bengal	366
30.	Andman & Nicobar Islands	2
31.	Chandigarh	18
32.	Daman & Diu	1
33.	Pondicherry	11
TOTAL:		5589

Affairs of Bhoj Open University

†666. SHRI P.K. MAHESHWARI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the cases of irregularity and corruption have come to fore during the examinations of Bhoj Open University; and

(b) if so, the nature of complaints being made against the university?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI): (a) and (b) According to the information furnished by the Madhya Pradesh Bhoj (Open) University and the State Government of Madhya Pradesh, complaints alleging adoption of unfair means in examination, revaluation and tabulation of marks in the examination department of the University have been received.

Leakage of CAT Examination

†667. SHRI P.K. MAHESHWARI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the results of the "Combined Admission Test" (CAT) conducted recently was leaked 24 hours before the schedule;

†Original notice of the Question was received in Hindi.

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is a fact that earlier also the question papers of the CAT were found to be available in the market several times well before the commencement of the exams; and

(d) the steps being taken by Government to retain the falling goodwill of these most prestigious and internationally acclaimed management institutions and prevent the reoccurrence of such misdeeds?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A FATMI): (a) and (b) A statement is attached (see below).

(c) and (d) The Common Admission Test (CAT) for entry to all Indian Institutes of Management (IIMs) and some other Management Institutions conducted on November 23, 2003 had to be cancelled due to alleged leakage of question paper. The test was successfully re-conducted on February 15, 2004. The entire procedure was thoroughly reviewed in a combined meeting of the IIMs. As a result several additional precautions i.e. change of the printing press, additional seal for each question paper, additional security during test construction, additional deployment of faculty and staff during conduction of the test etc. were implemented in subsequent tests.

Statement

Leakage of results of CAT Examinations

As per the report received from the Indian Institute of Management, Ahmedabad (IIMA), CAT 2004 was conducted on November 21, 2004. Answer sheets were scanned by each of the institutes immediately after that. On December 1, the admission chairmen of all the IIMs and the Common Admission Test (CAT) center coordinators met at CAT Center to do all necessary checks for processing of the results. The final CDs containing the scores and the confirmed complete addresses were sent to all the IIMs and to the scorecard-printing agency on December 15, 2004.

The CAT group decided internally that by midnight December 21/22, 2004, the results would be displayed on the websites of all IIMs and that posting of the scorecards would also start simultaneously. This was an internal decision, and there was no public announcement about this date. Before displaying the scorecards on their respective websites, each

institute goes through a process of testing from the view point of easy accessibility prior to uploading on to the website. The testing for the IIMA website was done in the evening of December 20, and early morning of December 21, 2004. Since comprehensive process of testing requires uploading and testing on-line, it is possible that some candidates may have got access to the link by mere coincidence. As the whole operation is to be in the public domain in any case, such coincidences would be inconsequential in terms of the ultimate outcome. Moreover, only the individuals who furnish the respective Test Registration Number and Date of Birth can have access to their scorecard.

The results are actually declared through the printed scorecard sent by registered post to every candidate who took the test and the printed scorecard is the only valid document showing the result. In the CAT 2004 Bulletin issued in July 2004, it was clearly indicated that all eligible test takers would receive their scorecards by the end of December, 2004. However, to facilitate faster accessibility of results from the viewpoint of the candidates, CAT Group also decided to allow candidates to have access to the electronic version of their scorecards. This was done primarily with the objective of providing better service to the test takers. The exercise of prior testing was meant to ensure a smooth and trouble free access to everyone.

As decided by the CAT Group, the results of CAT 2004 were placed on the website of each IIM by midnight of December 21/22, 2004.

Scholarships for SC/ST/OBC students

668. SHRI T.T.V. DHINAKARAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the scholarships/fellowships etc. given to the students at various levels of education on the basis of merit/examination;

(b) whether there are schemes for scholarships/fellowships for the talented SC/ST/OBC students;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if answer to part (b) above be in the negative whether Government would consider providing this facility to such students?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI): (a) The Ministry of Human Resource Development implements the scheme entitled National Merit