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A COMPARATIVE STUDY OF ONLINE OFF-CAMPUS COUNSELING FOR ADMISSION TO ENGINEERING INSTITUTIONS IN INDIA

VIJAY BHURIA
ASST. PROFESSOR
MADHAV INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY & SCIENCE
GWALIOR

R. K. DIXIT
PROFESSOR
NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF TECHNICAL TEACHER'S TRAINING & RESEARCH
BHOPAL

ABSTRACT

Today, admission of various engineering institutions like Indian Institute of Technology's, National Institute of Technology's and state level engineering institutions successfully are being done by online off-campus counseling process. This process saves time, money and efforts to the students, parents and also government. Initiative of online counseling for admission purpose is a part of good governance in India. This paper presents a comparative study of online off-campus counseling process to the admission of undergraduate engineering and technology courses in the various state of India.

KEYWORDS

Engineering Institutions, Governance, Online Counseling.

INTRODUCTION

Engineering education in India started during the British era and focused mainly on civil engineering. A brief history of engineering education in India is available in the Rao Committee report [1] and the Ministry of Human Resource Development website [2]. The Engineering College at Roorkee (1847), Poona Civil Engineering College at Pune (1854), Bengal Engineering College at Shibpur (1856), Banaras Hindu University (1916), Harcourt Butler Technological Institute, Kanpur (1920) were some of the earliest engineering colleges established that continue till the present day. In 1945 the Sarkar Committee [3] was appointed to suggest options for advanced technical education in India. The Sarkar committee recommended the establishment of higher technical institutes based on the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in the four regions of India. This resulted in the setting up of the five Indian Institutes of Technology at Kharagpur (1950), Bombay (1958), Kanpur (1959), Madras (1960) and Delhi (1961) (Delhi was added on to the original four). The All India Council for Technical Education was set up in 1945, to oversee all technical education (diploma, degree and post-graduate) in the country. The Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs), National Institute of Technology (NITs) are institutions of national importance. These institutes, along with Indian School of Mines (ISM), Dhanbad, and Institute of Technology, Banaras Hindu University (IT-BHU), Varanasi, Indian Institutes of Information Technology (IIITs, IIITM & IIITDM) play a leading role in technological manpower development. The admissions to the Undergraduate Programmes for all Indian and Foreign nationals at these institutions are made through the online off-campus counseling. All these institutions are known for providing quality education in science and technology and for research in frontier areas. There are some states, where admission to engineering institutions are being done by online counseling like Haryana, Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Orissa, West Bengal, Kerala, Rajasthan, Gujarat etc.

OBJECTIVES AND NEED OF ONLINE COUNSELING

Online off Campus Counseling is to serve candidates in terms of providing them with the facilities of counseling at their place of convenience. This process eliminates need for coming to the Central place and avoids unnecessary hassles. The main purpose of online counseling are-

- To bring in 100% transparency in conduct of counseling and allotment of seats.
- To minimize travel burden on candidates & their parents by making the system online.
- Minimizing human interference in processing of results and preparation of inter se-merit

If supply and demand for engineering graduates is to be balanced, it is expected that the number of engineering graduates required would depend on the growth of the economy and the population. [4].

From the below table and figures shows that the number of engineering institutions and enrollment of students increases rapidly, hence Ministry of Human Resource and Development have decided that from 2002 admission of engineering courses through online procedure. MHRD give as a project to NIC (National Informatics Centre (NIC), DIT, MoCIT, and Government of India) under the National E-Governance Plan. National Informatics Centre (NIC) is a premier S & T institution of the Government of India, established in 1976, for providing e-Government / e- Governance Solutions adopting best practices, integrated services and global solutions in Government Sector.

TABLE 1: GROWTH OF AICTE APPROVED TECHNICAL INSTITUTIONS & STUDENT ENROLLMENT IN ENGINEERING & TECHNOLOGY COURSE FOR LAST SIX YEARS

Year	Number of Institutions	Student Enrollment	Added in Year
2005-06	1451	519922	78
2006-07	1511	550986	171
2007-08	1668	653290	394
2008-09	2388	841018	1345
2009-10	2972	1071896	1131
2010-11	3233	1314594	643
2011-12	3393	1485894	357

Source: Secondary Data (AICTE Approval Process Report 2012-13)

FIGURE 1: GROWTH OF ENGINEERING INSTITUTIONS FROM 2006-12

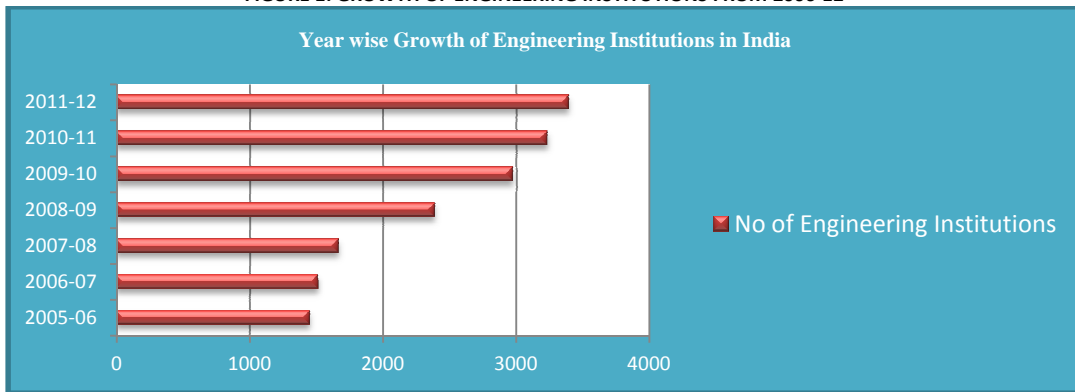
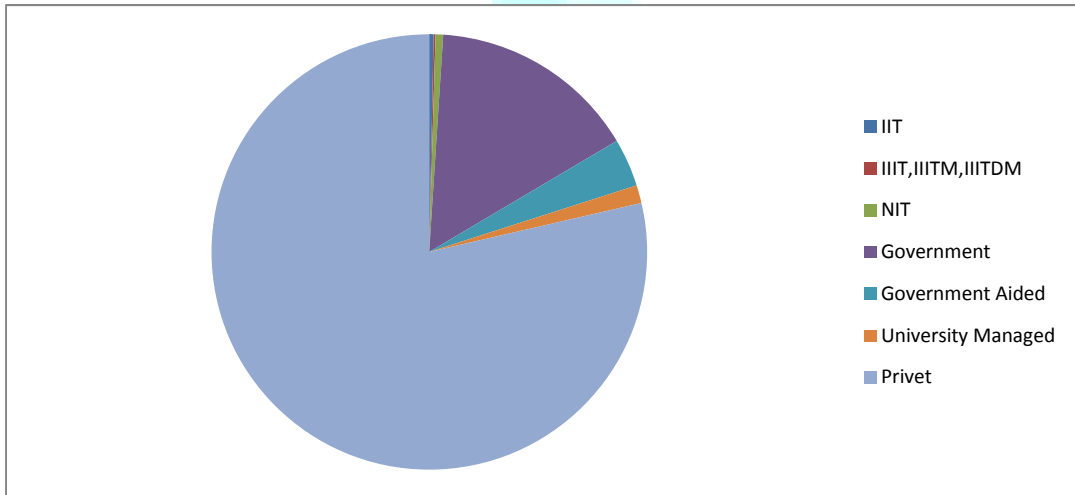


FIGURE 2: PERCENTAGE DISTRIBUTION OF ENGINEERING INSTITUTIONS IN INDIA



This paper presents major procedural steps admission to engineering institutions through online counseling in India.

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

This study is based on secondary data. The required data have been collected from various sources i.e. IIT-JEE counseling, AIEEE counseling, State counseling board and internet. The trend analysis of the data has been done. In order to analyze the collected data, compared various counseling activity and shows the number of help centers allotted for counseling.



TABLE 2: SUMMARY OF ONLINE COUNSELING PROCESS IN DIFFERENT STATES IN INDIA

Exam/State-wise Exams	No. of Engineering Institutions/Intake (Seat)	No. of Help/Reporting Centre	Process/Activity
IIT-JEE	17 9647	17	Online Registration at http://jee counselling.iitd.ac.in/JCOP Online Choice Filling a) Obtain a User-ID b) Generate and print a challan for making the counseling fee payment c) fee payment at any State Bank of India branches d) Complete the registration Payment of counseling Fees Document to be sent to Zonal IITs
AIEEE	69 34803	39	Online registration at www.ccb.nic.in Online choice filling and locking of choices Online Seat Allotment and personally reporting to a Reporting Center Getting Admitted to Allotted Institute
WBJEE	96 NA	26	Online Registration at http://www.wbjeeb.nic.in or www.aieee.nic.in Payment of initial counseling fees through E-challan of UBI Online Choice filling and choice locking Allotment of Seat and Remote Admission at Reporting Centre Physical reporting at Allotted Institute
UPTU	327 118282	24	Registration at www.uptu.ac.in , www.mtu.ac.in , www.upsee.nic.in Phase-I : Off-Campus On-Line Counseling Phase-II: On-Campus On-line Counseling First Counseling http://www.upsee.nic.in
RPET	127 54806	78	Online Registration at www.techedu.rajasthan.gov.in or Online Preference/Choice Filling Allotment of Seat Reporting at help centre and deposited fees
Gujarat-CET	105 44243	75	Online Registration at www.gujacpc.nic.in Online Preference/Choice Filling Mock Round Allotment of Seat Reporting at help centre and deposited fees
Maharashtra-CET	309 114268	31	Online counseling through centralized Allotment Process Online Application Form on www.dte.org.in for CAP & CAPAI Confirmation of Online Application Form & Document Verification at ARC only Display of Provisional Merit List Filling up of Online Option Form for each of the CAP AI/ CAP rounds I/II/III. Confirmation of Online Option Form at ARC only Display of Provisional Allotment at ARC Reporting to the institute as per allotment of the CAPAI / CAP rounds I/II/III and confirmation of admission
MP-PET	221 90,360	62	Online Registration at www.dtempcounseling.org or www.mponline.gov.in Document Verification at approved Help Centre Online Preference/Choice Filling and Part Payment of Tuition Fee Online Allotment Reporting at Allotted Institute and Document Verification
Orissa JEE	99	20	Online registration at www.ojee.nic.in Online choice filling Reporting at nodal center, Payment of counseling fee, Document verification, Final choice locking and print out of final seat choice. Provisional Seat Allotment (Provisional round allotment) Part payment of Admission Fees through designated bank. Up-gradation, if any and final allotment.(Final round allotment) Reporting at the allotted Institute/Nodal Centres.(Rank wise Allotment of seats)
Uttaraknd	35 4428	01 University Help centre	Downloading of Bank-Challan & Depositing Counseling Fee Online Registration at http://uktech.ac.in or http://ukcounseling.nic.in Online Filling of Choices Allotment of seat Reporting at Allotted Institutes/Colleges
Haryana	166 64973	123,UTD	Depositing fees at www.hscs.org or www.hscs.in Online registration at www.tehadmissions.gov.in . Online choice filling and locking Allotment Reporting at the allotted Institute.

Table.2 shows the various states online counseling process with number of engineering institutions, number of students and help/reporting centre's to gives proper guidance regarding counseling process.

Rider- There may be difference in data due to non availability of data (Secondary Source)

SERVICE PROVIDERS AND USERS

- Directorate of Technical Education (DTE), State Technical University
- State Counseling Society
- National Informatics Centre (NIC), MP Online Limited
- The State Bank of India, Union Bank of India and ICICI Bank branches; Fee Collection Gateway
- Participating Institutions (PI)
- Candidates/Students and their parents

Services are provided to candidates by login into public websites by two links-

- Govt to Citizen (G2C)
- Govt to Govt (G2G)

BENEFITS OF ONLINE OFF-CAMPUS COUNSELING

- It saves the time, money and effort of the students, parents and also service providers.
- 100% transparency in the allotment of seat.
- Less number of manpower is required due to internet based counseling.

DRAWBACKS WITH ONLINE COUNSELING

There is a fear of misplaced options (Change the user name and password) that may result in loss of seat. Another fear is that the server downtime, if happens during counseling, can create a havoc as many candidates will not be able to understand the online error messages. Third fear is that during the internet banking payment option, there may be chance of server failure due heavy rush and may be failure of supply. There are some precautionary measures should be taken by the students while online counseling-

- Students should place as many options as possible by own.
- Change the password after registration in which temporary password received via SMS.
- Do not share user name, counseling password and internet banking password to others.
- Choices are filled at help centers or reporting centre's or own personal computers.

CONCLUSION

Online off-campus counseling process to the admission of engineering college is a significance of good governance in India. There may be need to reforms in the process through common online admission test conduct by MHRD. Therefore student need not to give various examinations and nor spent money, time and effort. According to their all India merit rank they can opt admission via online counseling to the premier Institute. To streamline the services, central board of secondary education initiates joint entrance examination from 2013.

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