

the witnesses appeared in the court.

The J&K sex scandal hit headlines after pornographic MMFS was traced during rounds in Jammu and Kashmir. The police found a case and started investigating. During the investigation it was revealed that Sabreena, the alleged kingpin, engaged in supplying girls to various officials in the state. Later the case was transferred to CBI from the police. There are in all fourteen accused involved in the sex scam and these include former J&K Minister Ghulam Ahmed Hassan Mir, Independent MLA and former Minister Raman Mattoo, BSFDGKC Padhi, former J&K Additional Advocate General Anil Sethi, DSP Mohamad Ashraf Mir.

The initiative aims to make schools 'garbage-free' zones

WITH a main aim to make schools 'garbage-free' zones, The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI) in association with Tetra Pak Private Limited has launched the second phase of SEARCHE — an awareness programme on waste management practices.

Phase II of the project will continue till April 2011 and cover over 70 schools in Chandigarh and Mumbai. The second phase of the project has been upscaled to reach out to a total of 1.2 lakh students and teachers and would help set up garbage collection centers in partner schools. Ranjana Saitika, director environment education and youth services division, TERI said: "In phase II of the project SEARCHE, we

will sensitise over a hundred thousand youths on good waste-management practices."

Explaining Tetra Pak's involvement, Jitdeep Gokhale, the association's environment and communications director, South Asia markets, said: "As the project advances into second phase, we hope to see this materialise into many successful waste management programmes at schools." In phase I, the project directly reached out to around 2,500 students and teachers and teachers were indirectly benefited in 60 schools of Delhi and Bangalore.

Vacant in government schools

RITU SHARMA

CHANDIGARH, JULY 28

EVEN though the second round of counselling has ended, as many as 2,000 Class XI seats are lying vacant in various government schools. Nearly 500 students (other than those with E grade) who applied in the first and second counselling are yet to get admission in a government school.

While the UT Education department is clueless about the entire admission process, it is the students who are suffering lot. Students and their parents are running from pillar to post looking for answers as to why their wards are not getting admission.

The Education department has allegedly failed to correctly implement the online allotment of seats. "The entire month of July has gone waste. While private schools have started the Class XI session, the condition of government schools is pitiable with there being no certainty on when the classes would begin. August 11 is the date for third counselling," said a government school principal.

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The condition is worse for the 500-odd students yet to get admissions to any of the schools.

"I have met school authorities and the Education department officials several times, but have got little help. Now, the DEO has asked me to wait till August 11," said Ravi Kumar, one of the students who has not been allotted any school.

DEO Chanchal Singh, meanwhile, said: "We are waiting for the results of the re-examinations conducted by CBSE and compartment exam conducted by other boards, so as to give them an opportunity 100. This explains why we have kept August 11 as the results for these colleges are expected to be declared before that."

CSE	27
MECH	28
EEE	27



Students and parents keep a watch on the LCD screen where the number of vacant seats were displayed at PEC University of Technology in Sector 12, Chandigarh, on Wednesday. SUNIT MAHORIA

EDUCATION

WILL COME UP ON 25 ACRES IN SECTOR 81, KNOWLEDGE CITY, FACULTY AND HOSTELLERS WILL SHIFT TO THE NEW CAMPUS NEXT MONTH

IISER Mohali campus to be functional from June next year

NITIN JAIN
MOHALI, JULY 28

TO come up on 125 acres of land at Knowledge City in Sector 81, the new campus of Indian Institute of Science Education and Research (IISER) will be fully functional from June 2011.

To begin with, the director, eight senior faculty members and a group of students will be shifting residence to the new campus site next month when these will be made operational. While the first hostel will be ready by August 15, the residences of director and faculty will be ready by August 31. The second hostel block will be completed by October.

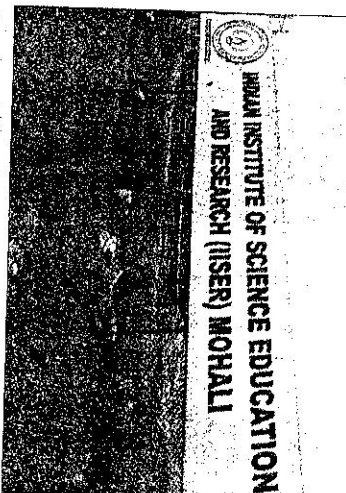
With work on the first academic block and lecture hall complex is in the advanced

stage of completion, the fourth academic session will continue from its transit campus in Mahatma Gandhi State Institute of Public Administration (MGSIPA), Sector 26, Chandigarh, said IISER coordinator Dr Jagdeep Singh.

IISER's new campus has already got the Central Analytical Facility (CAF) building, which was opened in March and hosts many sophisticated instrumentation and experimental facilities — high-field, high-resolution Nuclear Magnetic Resonance (NMR) spectrometers, X-Ray diffractometers, Laser Raman, SNOM instrument, Ultra-Fast Laser and Cryogenics lab.

The NMR research facility has opened up new horizons for interdisciplinary re-

INDIAN INSTITUTE OF SCIENCE EDUCATION AND RESEARCH (IISER) MOHALI

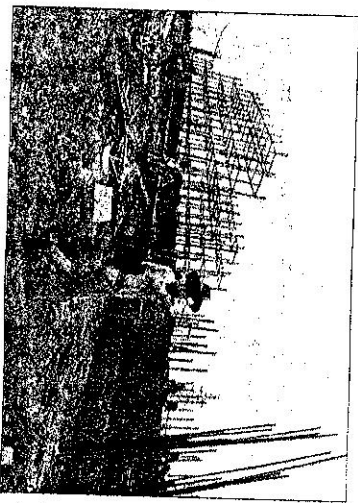


Construction in progress at IISER in Mohali.

search ranging from structural biology to quantum computing. The facility currently houses two state-of-the-art ultra-high field NMR spectrometers (400MHz and 600MHz) with custom-designed sophisticated RF probes, provision for auto-

sampling facility and low-temperature facility. Both machines have been supported by Bruker Biospin in Switzerland.

The 600 MHz NMR spectrometer is custom-built for cutting-edge research. The machine is a first-of-its-kind



VIKRAM JOY

in the region and IISER NMR research facility is poised to contribute significantly to research in this area and embark upon collaborative inter-disciplinary research with other institutions like IMTECH in the region. The CAF is housed in a specially-designed magnet hall building.

Besides an ultra-fast femto-second laser facility and low-temperature cryogenics laboratory, a super-computing Linux-based cluster was also planned as part of IISER's computing facility

and was in the preliminary stages of implementation.

IISER is one of the six national premier institutes of higher education set to come up in Knowledge City, the foundation stone of which was laid by Prime Minister Dr Manmohan Singh on September 27, 2006.

IISER was established by Union Ministry of Human Resource Development to carry out research in frontier areas of science and provide quality science education at the undergraduate and post-graduate level. IISER's primary mandate is to perform cutting-edge research in all areas of basic sciences.

IISER at present has facilities for human and animal tissue culture, climate controlled chambers, complete drosophila facility, state-of-

the-art protein expression and purification system.

For a total 166 students of Master's in science dual degree five-year integrated programme and 51 PhD scholars on rolls, a total of 36 faculty members are presently serving in IISER.

The total number of 100 seats in MS would be raised to 200 while the total number of PhD scholars would be raised to 1,000, for whom 200 faculty members and 220 non-teaching staffs would be taken on board. The new admission to the MS programme was completed while admissions to MS/BS dual degree programme was done through Kishore Vaigyanik Protsahan Yojna and IIT-JEE exams, besides direct application till September 10.