



International Column



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South Korea

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Al-Falah University gets show-cause from NAAC over 'false accreditation claims'



The NAAC has sought an explanation and directed the university to remove the NAAC accreditation details from its website and any other publicly available or distributed documents.

■ EJ News - Chandigarh

The National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC) has issued a show-cause notice to Al-Falah University, which is under scanner in connection with the Delhi blast probe, for displaying false accreditation on its website, officials said on Thursday.

In the notice, the Council noted that the Al-Falah University had claimed that two of its institutes—Al-Falah School of Engineering and Technology and Al-Falah School of Education and Training—were accredited by NAAC, but the accreditation had expired long back.

The notice further added,

... both colleges have not volunteered for the Cycle-2 Assessment and Accreditation (A&A) process of NAAC. "Al-Falah University is an endeavour of Al-Falah Charitable Trust, which has been running three colleges on the campus, namely Al Falah School of Engineering and Technology (since 1997, Graded A by NAAC), Brown Hill College of Engineering and Technology (since 2008), and Al-Falah School of Education and Training (since 2006, Graded A by NAAC)."

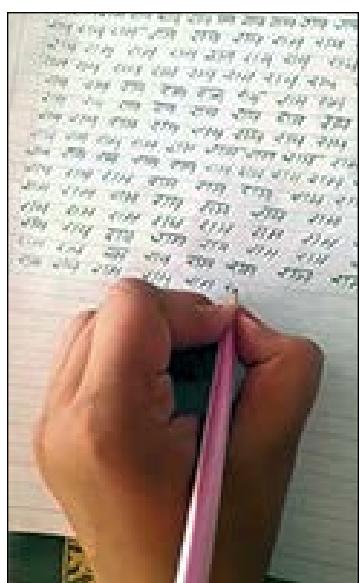
"This is absolutely wrong and misleading the public, especially the parents, students and stakeholders," the show-cause notice read.

"Why should the University not be disqualified for future consideration for Assessment and Accreditation (A&A) by NAAC? Why should the NAAC not recommend to the UGC and NMC to withdraw recognition of the University's programmes?" the notice stated.

The NAAC has sought an explanation and directed the university to remove the NAAC accreditation details from its website and any other publicly available or distributed documents.

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Ayodhya Medical College had students write 'Ram-Ram' as punishment



■ EJ News - Ayodhya

In a distinctive approach to instilling discipline, Ayodhya's Rajarshi Dashrath Government Medical College has introduced a practice where students and staff found negligent or

indisciplined are asked to write "Ram Ram" repeatedly as a corrective measure.

According to college authorities, the number of times one has to write the phrase depends on the seriousness of the lapse—ranging from negligence in patient care and delay in reporting to duty, to irresponsible behavior in the hospital premises. The administration says the aim is to promote self reflection, inner peace, and a sense of responsibility rather than impose punishment.

College principal Satyajeet Verma clarified that this is not an official order but a verbal suggestion meant to encourage mindfulness and moral discipline. "There is no compulsion. It is not about religion, but about reminding oneself of higher values.

Students of other faiths are free to adapt it according to their own beliefs," he said.

Verma added that writing "Ram Ram" repeatedly helps bring calmness, focus, and self control—qualities essential for those in the medical profession. He believes the initiative blends moral, cultural, and academic values and helps build a compassionate attitude among future healthcare professionals.

Interestingly, the practice is not limited to students alone. Even hospital staff and attendants found neglecting their duties are asked to follow the same process. Many have reportedly taken it in good spirit, submitting note books filled with neatly written "Ram Ram."

The administration believes this approach is more constructive than punitive measures like fines or suspension, as it encourages correction through reflection rather than resentment.

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The Trump administration has revoked 8,000 student visas



■ EJ News - Agency

The Australian government has announced a new Ministerial Direction that will come into effect on November 14, which it says will "strengthen and balance distribution of international students across education providers in regional and metropolitan locations".

Ministerial Direction 115 will replace Ministerial Direction 111 and will work to support the 2026 National Planning Level (NPL), which sets targets for international student places at Australian universities.

"Throughout 2025 we have seen the positive effect of a managed growth approach across the sector – returning student numbers to a more sustainable level," said Julian Hill, assistant minister for international education in a statement on November 10.

"Growth has moderated, with student lodgements down by over 26% last year and commencements down on last year by 16%," he added.

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After restoring the records, the government proposed expanding the powers of Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) to cancel students' legal status if the visa they used to enter the US is revoked, though this has not yet been announced as official policy.

According to Hill, the introduction of the latest Ministerial Direction will continue "to build on the government's work to maintain the quality, integrity and sustainability of our international.

Student visas made up 10% of the administration's overall cancellation of 80,000 non-immigrant visas during Donald Trump's second term, a State Department official said.

The top reasons for the overall revocations were assault, theft and driving under the influence



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Environmental Education in South Korea

I will introduce how to separate and collect garbage among environmental education in South Korea. In South Korea, garbage is separated by type in separate collection boxes. A recycling box is made so that things such as plastic, glass, cans, paper, etc. can be separated.

Separate collection is carried out everywhere in South Korea. Separate collection is carried out everywhere in Korea, including businesses, households, and schools.

Schools also separate garbage. Recycling everything recyclable, such as bottles, cans, and paper, is collected separately.

Containers for liquids, such as milk cartons and beverage bottles, should be thoroughly washed before disposal. Also, remove the plastic label from the bottle and throw it in the trash. Separate garbage by type and dispose of it.

When throwing away appliances or furniture in the house, call the local government. The government collects home appliances and then recycles them. Those who throw away home appliances have to pay a certain amount of money to local governments.

As such, South Korea's garbage collection encourages people to

throw away small amounts of garbage by charging garbage fees.

The government is widely

away by paying for it. In addition, garbage bags containing food waste must be purchased by the people themselves.

Since the people have to pay the government for disposing of garbage, the citizens are encouraged to minimize the generation



promoting awareness of environmental protection to the public and the necessity of separate collection of waste. It promotes waste collection and improves the environment at the same time.

Food waste must be placed in a place where only food waste is collected. This is because food waste can be used to make compost, feed, and energy. In South Korea, food waste can only be thrown

Purchasing garbage bags by the people themselves serves to force the people to reduce food waste to some extent. Regular waste and food waste must be purchased in a dedicated garbage bag to be thrown away in the collection box. In a nutshell, the more trash thrown out in South Korea, the more expensive it will be. Because the people have to pay the government to dispose of the garbage, the citizens are encouraged to minimize the generation of waste.

of waste. It is convenient for people to throw away the garbage by collecting it at once. It is convenient if the waste is incinerated and disposed of. However, it is all of us who have to take care of the pollution, and our children will have to deal with it later. In the end, it will affect all of us, so we need to pay attention to garbage collection.

The reason why South Koreans are so good at separating gar-



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Educationist
South Korea

bage is based on outstanding civic awareness. The outstanding civic consciousness of South Koreans was not achieved overnight, but by education.

There is a Korean proverb that says, "The habit of three years old goes all the way to eighty." So, even kindergartens before entering elementary school provide separate garbage collection education.

From kindergarten, education is taught to cut into the body how to separate and collect waste. Of course, children in kindergarten learn from their parents at home by watching them collect waste separately.

In Korean textbooks, there is a content called environment, so students learn about nature conservation at school. And there are environmental protection

activities in class. These environmental protection activities are taught by the Ministry of Education.

Clean the environment around the school during environmental protection activities. South Korea is teaching environmental protection through education. Because of this repeated education, garbage is collected separately and recycling resources is being made. These days, many foreigners are coming to South Korea. They say they are surprised to see a clean cityscape. Of course, there are people who throw away trash in South Korea as well. Everywhere is clean because fewer people throw away trash. And food waste recycling is the best in the world. All these results were made through education.

As a teacher, I also educate students to conserve resources so as not to throw out garbage, and the school also separates collection. Good habits are completed by constant repetition and effort.

Education systems in all countries cannot be perfect. If there is a system that other countries' educational systems should follow, you should choose your strengths. I think South Korea's environmental education method is a good example.

The pros and cons of AI in education

A Case Study in Co-Creative Storytelling

The use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) in schools is changing how we teach and learn. Is AI a helpful assistant or a tempting cheat code? We can find the answer by looking at how students actually use it.

A recent international school project, "Nemophilist Econuts for Green Planet," gives us a perfect example. Within the scope of their Erasmus & eTwinning project, nearly 100 students from 5 schools (from Türkiye, Croatia, Romania, and Italy) worked together to create a 10-chapter book about climate change. They mixed their own ideas with AI tools. This process clearly showed the best parts of using AI and the challenges we must watch out for.

The project succeeded because students first led the effort (designing characters, setting, and theme), and then used AI to speed up the writing, design, and publishing and dissemination of the final work.

The Good Factors of AI in Education

AI Makes Teamwork Better
AI was successful because it helped students from different countries work together faster and easier. It acted as a shared tool that leveled the playing field for everyone.

1. Writing Faster with AI

After students finished the initial planning, they faced the big task of writing the story. Using AI to generate the 10-chapter story showed how AI can be a great writing partner:

• Breaking Down Walls: In a project with many countries, writing a single story can be slow because of language differences



and scheduling. AI provided an instant, single piece of writing based on the students' shared vision.

• Saving Time: AI did the first, quick draft. This allowed students to spend their time on more important skills like editing, fixing the structure, and thinking critically about the text—the things a machine can't do well. Their job changed from being the "writer" to being the crucial "editor."

2. Better Pictures for Everyone with AI

To make the book look professional, students used AI to create background pictures:

• Creative Help: Students who weren't good at drawing could now create high-quality, professional images that per-

fectedly matched their climate change story. This built confidence and meant the quality of the book depended on their imagination (what they asked the AI to create), not just their drawing talent.

• Seeing the Story: AI helped turn big ideas about climate change into clear, interesting visuals, making the final book richer and more engaging.

3. Making Different Formats with AI

In the last step, students used AI to turn the finished book into both a MindMap and a Podcast:

• Organizing Ideas: The AI-made MindMap forced students to summarize the book's 10 chapters into main points. This helped them understand and analyze the content better.

• Making Content for New Audiences: Turning the text into a



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Educationist
Turkey

Podcast used AI to switch the project from a written book to an audio file. This taught students about creating content for different platforms and audiences—a key skill in today's digital world.

2. Knowing How to Use AI and Avoiding Bias

Using AI tools means students need new skills in digital literacy:

• The Instruction Problem: Students need specific training on how to give the AI good instructions (prompts) to get the pictures or text they want. Without this training, some students may feel left behind, making the digital gap wider.

• Bias and Fairness: All AI models learn from huge amounts of existing information, which can sometimes include unfair or old-fashioned ideas (bias). Students must learn to look closely at the AI's output for stereotypes and understand that AI shows patterns from its training data, it doesn't always generate the "truth."

3. The Danger to Originality and Thinking

The biggest risk is losing the line between writing with AI and writing what you truly thought of yourself.

If students let AI write the whole story, they miss out on the hard, but important, thinking needed to create a plot or develop characters:

• Losing Your Voice: Relying too much on AI can make stories sound general, like they were written by a machine. This stops students from developing their own unique writing style.

• Telling vs. Creating: The lesson changes from the skill of writing to the skill of giving instructions (prompting) to the AI.

This project successfully proves that AI's value in school depends on how it's used. AI is more than just an automatic tool; it's a powerful partner and accelerator when people give it clear, strong instructions.

The successes—fast writing, **>> Contd. p.4....**

Al-Falah...

"The university may respond within seven days from the receipt of this show-cause notice in this," it added.

On Monday, a high-intensity blast ripped through a car near Red Fort in Delhi, killing 13 people and injuring several others, hours after the busting of a "white collar terror module".

The arrested included three doctors linked to Al-Falah University.

Al-Falah University, located only 30 kilometers from Jamia Millia Islamia University in Delhi, is managed by the Al-Falah Charitable Trust.

The Trust was established in 1995, and registered in Jamia Nagar, Okhla, New Delhi. Jawad Ahmad Siddiqui is the chairman of the Trust, Muffi Abdullah Qasimi M A is the vice-chairman and Mohammad Wajid DME is the secretary.

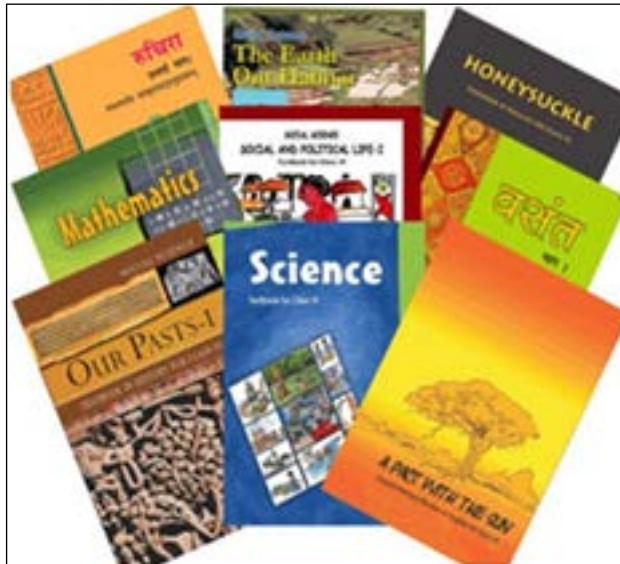
As per the website of the university it was established by the Haryana Legislative Assembly under the Haryana Private Universities Act. It started as an engineering college in 1997.

In 2013, the Al-Falah Engineering College received 'A' category accreditation from the National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC) of the University Grants Commission. In 2014, the Haryana government granted it university status. The Al-Falah Medical College is also affiliated with the university. The medical college added MBBS courses in 2019, followed by postgraduate classes in 2023. Al Falah also has a small hospital with 650 beds, where doctors treat patients for free.

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CBSE flags poor-quality, inaccurate NCERT textbook copies sold at discounts



■ EJ - New Delhi

The Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) has issued a public advisory warning schools and parents about the circulation of counterfeit NCERT textbooks in the market. According to the official notice, the board has received information that "unauthorised book sellers are supplying counterfeit/fake versions of NCERT textbooks at discounted

prices."

These fake books reportedly suffer from poor print quality and content inaccuracies, raising concerns about their potential impact on students' learning. CBSE has urged all affiliated schools to advise parents to purchase only authentic NCERT textbooks through approved channels. The board noted that fake textbooks "may adversely affect the learning experience

IIT-Gandhinagar launches three fully residential GenAI-powered tech PG diploma programs

■ EJ News - Gandhinagar

The Indian Institute of Technology Gandhinagar (IIT Gandhinagar) has announced the launch of three six-month fully residential postgraduate diploma programmes. The new programmes have been launched through the IIT Gandhinagar Competency

Development Foundation and in collaboration with M/s. Futurese Technologies. These programmes are PG Diploma in AI and Agentic AI Engineering, PG Diploma in GenAI and Data Science Engineering and PG Diploma in AI-Powered Software Engineering with Cloud. The programmes are set to start

in February 2026.

This collaboration, according to an IIT Gandhinagar statement, reflects the vision of the institute's director Prof. Rajat Moona, to build future-ready, competitive, and immediately employable talent for and from India, addressing the critical skill

>> Contd. p.4..



Dehradun University notice awarding marks 'to attend' PM Modi's event goes viral; varsity calls it fake



■ EJ - Dehradun

A notice circulating among students about Prime Minister Narendra Modi's upcoming visit, allegedly offering academic marks for attendance, has been officially debunked by Dev Bhoomi Uttarakhand University (DUU) after political backlash.

The row began after a document bearing an alleged DDU letterhead claimed that students attending Modi's November 9 event at the Forest Research Institute would be awarded 50 marks.

The post went viral on social media and was also shared by lawyer-activist Prashant Bhushan. Congress spokesperson Garima Mahara Dasoumi cited the notice, accusing the university of coercing students to attend the PM's rally to help the BJP meet its target of one lakh attendees.

The DUU administration said the notice was "fake and misleading," clarifying the matter in a letter sent to the Department of Higher Education. In its clarifying statement, the university said the document lacked all hallmarks of authenticity. "This notice is completely false and misleading," the statement read.

"It lacks an official letterhead, reference number or signature from any competent authority, and it has not been issued or approved through any authorised university channel."

The Registrar of DUU issued a strong statement distancing the institution from the fabrication. "The university completely dissociates itself from any such notice," the Registrar said.

"We appeal to all students, guardians and concerned parties not to pay attention to such fraudulent information and to contact the university administration directly in case of any doubt."

The DUU administration moved to clear the air on the eve of Modi's visit, officially rejecting the unverified claims circulating without authorisation.

Muthoot Finance Scholarship 2025-26: Applications Open for Medical and B Tech Programs

■ EJ News - New Delhi

Muthoot Finance has opened applications for its Muthoot M George Higher Education Scholarship 2025-26, aimed at supporting students pursuing higher education. The programme will award scholarships to 210 students aspiring to build careers in B.Tech, MBBS and B.Sc Nursing during the 2025 academic year. Eligible students can apply through the official website - mgmsscholarship.muthootgroup.com. Since its inception, the initiative has benefited 394 students with a total disbursement of Rs 3.94 crore. The last date to apply



is November 30, 2025.

How To Apply?

- Visit the official website mgmsscholarship.muthootgroup.com.
- On the homepage, click on "Login/Register".
- Then, click on "New Student? Register Here".
- Enter your personal details such as email id, mobile, date of birth and other details.

>> Contd. page 4..

• You will be successfully registered for the scholarship programme.

Who Can Apply?

Students with over 90 per cent marks in their Class 12 examinations and an annual family income not exceeding Rs. 2 lakh can apply for the scholarship.

Students from Kerala and major Indian cities including Bengaluru, Hyderabad, Mumbai, Delhi, Chennai, and Kolkata are eligible to apply.

Documents To Be Submitted

- A Written Request For Availing Scholarship In English By Students



Indian Readers	Global Readers	Figures in Million's
Qtr. Ended Dec, 2024	Qtr. Ended March 2025	Groth %
5.39	5.64	+4.7%
3.26	3.71	+13.9%

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To achieve the NEET UG 2026 goal: Science preparation guide

EJ - Ravi Arya

Every NEET UG 2026 aspirant secretly hopes for that one subject that won't give them sleepless nights. For many, Chemistry is that middle ground, not as formula-heavy as Physics, not as vast as Biology. But here's the catch: Chemistry rewards clarity, consistency, and calm. Treat it well, and it'll be your most scoring ally. Neglect it, and it'll throw a few surprises your way, especially in the NEET exam hall. So, What Makes Chemistry Special?

Think of Chemistry as a three-course meal: Physical, Inorganic, & Organic

Each has its own flavour. Physical Chemistry is sharp and logical; it keeps your brain active and thinking. Inorganic Chemistry is tangy and precise, where every small detail matters. And Organic Chemistry is the slightly mysterious one, tricky at first but surprisingly enjoyable once you understand the flow of reactions. The secret is to taste all three in the right proportion. Focusing too much on one thing can throw your preparation off balance. But when you blend logic, memory, and understanding together, Chemistry turns into a subject you can genuinely enjoy and score well in. Let's plate them out one by one.

Physical Chemistry: Where Logic Meets the Calculator

Physical Chemistry is like a strategy game. You need rules, practice, and focus. Here, formulas are your tools, and numerical problems are your training ground.

- Create a small notebook for formulas and revise it daily. But don't just memorize them. Try to understand why and how each formula works.

- Practice examples from NCERT and your coaching mod-

ules regularly. It builds accuracy and confidence.

- Important chapters include Thermodynamics, Electrochemistry, Chemical Equilibrium, Solutions, and Chemical Kinetics. Pro tip: After solving each question, ask yourself whether you understood the logic behind it. If not, take a few minutes to revisit the concept.

Inorganic Chemistry: Details, Details, and More Details

Inorganic Chemistry is all about observation and patience. The smallest detail can turn into a question. Read the NCERT textbook line by line, because every trend, exception, and color mentioned there matters.

- Prepare summary sheets for oxides, chlorides, and oxidation states. They help you revise quickly before tests. Focus on chapters like Periodic Table, Chemical Bonding, Coordination Compounds, p-block elements (especially groups 13 to 18), and Salt Analysis.

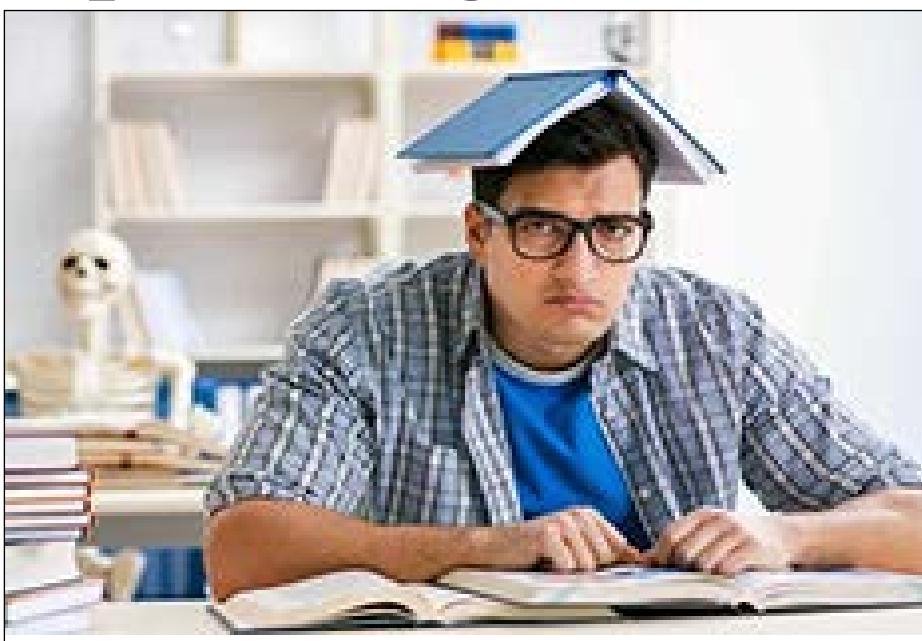
- Pro tip: Make tables and highlight important points. Visual learning helps your brain remember complex patterns more easily.

Organic Chemistry: The Detective Story of Reactions

Organic Chemistry is like solving a mystery. Every reaction has a reason, and every mechanism has a story. To understand it, start with the basics such as Inductive Effect, Resonance, and Hyperconjugation.

Once these are clear, the rest becomes much easier. Prepare reaction flowcharts to connect one concept to another. Practice questions on reaction mechanisms and named reactions regularly.

- Important chapters include General Organic Chemistry (GOC), Hydrocarbons, Alcohols, Phenols, Ethers, Aldehydes,



Ketones, Carboxylic Acids, Biomolecules, and Methods of Separation and Purification.

- Pro tip: Don't just learn what happens in a reaction. Focus on why it happens. That simple shift makes all the difference.

NEET UG 2026 Revision: The Real Game Changer

Revision is what transforms information into memory. It is not about studying for hours in one go. It is about revisiting concepts consistently. Spend weekends revising NCERT summary pages and take small chapter tests once you finish each topic.

- Keep a notebook of your mistakes and read it once a week. This habit prevents you from repeating them in the main exam. Mock tests are equally important as they teach you time management and exam temperament. Avoid These Common Traps in NEET UG 2026

- Don't skip NCERT, especially for Inorganic and Organic Chemistry — it's the official playbook.

—Don't memorise reactions without understanding mechanisms.

- And please, don't "save" Physical Chemistry for the last week

- it deserves more respect than that.

Be the Scientist of Your Own NEET UG Success

Chemistry isn't about luck; it's about method. The more you understand, the more patterns you

IIT-Gandhinagar...

gaps and empowering engineers to design, deploy, and scale production systems critical to India's digital economy.

"At IIT Gandhinagar, our mission is to build future-ready talent for and from India, professionals who do not just learn technology but apply and create with it. These programs combine real-world engineering depth, hands-on innovation, and a fully immersive IIT campus experience that shapes the next generation of India's tech workforce," said Prof. Rajat Moona, Director of IIT Gandhinagar.

The programmes are open for a selected group of "high-potential, high-energy and curious candidates", and follow a selection-based admission model, not open enrollment. Each programme admits only 60 students through AINPT (All India National Proficiency Test) and a multi-stage interview process.

Selected students experience a fully residential life at IIT Gandhinagar's 400-acre, GRIHA-LD five-star rated eco-friendly campus, mentored by IIT faculty and industry leaders from Fortune 500 companies. The students will undergo 600+ hours of bootcamp style immersive learning, and the pedagogy integrates several innovative initiatives such as extensive projects through an AI clinic, ideas lab, deconstructing products and backward engineering them, problem solving, extensive experience of AI led application building, competitive coding, and others, which help build skills of the future. With these, the program envisions that with the immersive bootcamp style in 6 months, the candidates will graduate with a competency level equivalent to two years of work experience.

The graduates of these exclusive programmes will be provided 100 per cent placement support, provided they are able to perform consistently through the programme. They will graduate with an Executive Alumni status and have access to a network of some of the top achievers from IITs — the expected outcome is building an accelerated career at some of the top organizations.

start seeing and suddenly, it's not intimidating anymore. So, keep

Ayodhya Medical...

The initiative has generated mixed reactions. Some have lauded it as a culturally rooted and positive way of promoting discipline and humility among medical students. Others have raised concerns over its religious undertone in a secular, professional institution.

Responding to such criticism, college officials have reiterated that the exercise is purely voluntary. "The objective is to instill self-discipline and a sense of service in the medical community. There is no force or religious bias involved," said a senior faculty member.

Students at the college have expressed varied opinions. While some see it as a harmless and introspective activity, others view it as an unnecessary blend of spirituality with academics. "If the intention is to encourage discipline, it is fine. But it should not appear as a religious practice," said a second-year MBBS student.

Despite the debate, the experiment has caught attention across Uttar Pradesh. Educational experts say it reflects a growing effort in some institutions to revive moral and cultural learning alongside professional education.

pros and cons...

high-quality design for everyone, and easy conversion into podcasts—show that AI can help students around the world. But these benefits will only last if teachers actively prevent the challenges: making sure students use AI critically, that the original human idea remains the most important part, and that the hard work of editing and judging right from wrong is never given to the machine.

In school, AI is about building a new partnership between human cleverness and artificial help.

Muthoot Finance...

- Recommendation Letter From A Local VIP (Political Leader/Community Leader)
- Plus 2 Marksheets, Passport size photo, Income certificate
- Proof of college admission
- Admission Allotment

The scholarship will provide Rs. 1.2 lakhs to B.Tech and B.Sc nursing students of four-year programmes, while MBBS students will be able to avail scholarship of Rs. 2.4 lakh. From each eligible location, 10 students will be selected from each stream—MBBS, B.Tech, and B.Sc Nursing—amounting to 30 students for every region.

your concepts clear, practice daily, and revise smartly.

Success in Chemistry doesn't demand perfection but just persistence. And when you finally walk into that NEET exam hall, remember this: you're not just solving questions; you're connecting ideas, just like a chemist connects atoms. Do that with focus and a smile, and you'll discover that success was always part of your equation.

8,000 student visas.. (DUIs), which accounted for nearly half of all revocations this year, according to the agency.

"The State Department revokes a visa any time there is an indication of a potential ineligibility, which includes things like indicators of an overstay, criminal activity, a threat to public safety, engaging in any form of terrorist activity, or providing support to a terrorist organisation," said the spokesperson.

The 80,000 figure total is more than twice the number of US visas cancelled in 2024, reflecting the Trump administration's broad immigration crackdown — which has seen international students arrested and detained for engaging in pro-Palestinian speech.

The State Department said approximately 16,000 visas had been pulled for DUIs, 12,000 for assaults and 8,000 for thefts. The department has the discretion to terminate a student's visa at any time.

"Promises made, promises kept," announced the State Department on social media last week, adding that President Trump and Secretary of State Marco Rubio would "always put the safety and interests of the American people first".

Under the current administration, the US has also made it more difficult to obtain a visa, implementing tighter social media vetting and expanded screening processes.

In June, a near-month-long suspension of student visa appointments at US embassies also proved highly disruptive, with India, China, and Nigeria — the country's largest sending markets — hardest hit by cancellations and unavailability.

As per the government data, roughly 2,000 student visas have been revoked since August, when the department declared more than 6,000 visas in total had been pulled for the same reasons.

The announcement follows a landmark ruling on September 30 that found the administration's arrests and deportations of international students for pro-Palestinian advocacy illegal, declaring non-immigrants "unequivocal" rights to free expression.

The government immediately said it would appeal the decision and had previously justified the students' detention under one of Trump's early directives vowing to take "forceful and unprecedented" steps to combat antisemitism on college campuses.

Traditionally, student visa revocations have not been common, but since mid-March sudden visa revocations by the State Department have contributed to widespread uncertainty among international students on US campuses.

A visa revocation, while significant, only impacts a person's ability to return to the country, whereas a student SEVIS status permits them to remain in the US.

JMI launches RCI-accredited advanced diploma in child guidance and counselling



EJ - New Delhi

The Department of Psychology at Jamia Millia Islamia (JMI) has launched an advanced diploma course on child guidance and counselling. The two-semester course is accredited by the Rehabilitation Council of India (RCI).

The initiative received support and guidance from the Vice Chancellor, Prof. Mazhar Asif. Additionally, JMI Registrar, Prof. Md. Mahtab Alam Rizvi provided support throughout the accreditation process and in organising the orientation.

Inaugurating the orientation program, Prof. Rizvi expressed appreciation for the hard work and commitment of the Department in pursuing rigorous ac-

creditation and organising the event. He emphasised that faith is an important component of mental health, noting that maintaining faith in higher powers can help reduce anxiety and stress.

He congratulated the head of the department, Prof. Samina Bano, and the Diploma Coordinator, Prof. Sheema Aleem, for their dedicated efforts and assured them of complete support from the administration.

Prof. Mohd. Muslim Khan, Dean of the Faculty of Social Sciences, provided an engaging account of Jamia's rich history and extended his best wishes to the Department for the success of the course.

Prof. Samina Bano, Head of the Department, welcomed the new-

ly admitted students. Together with Prof. Sheema Aleem, the Departmental Coordinator of the Diploma, she expressed profound gratitude to the Vice Chancellor and the Registrar for their unwavering support. They also recognized the contributions of Prof. Bharti Sharma, Course Coordinator; Dr Faizullah Khan; and Prateek Kumar, Programme Officer from RCI, for their assistance during the accreditation process.

Prof. Bano expressed hope that the students would serve as proud ambassadors for the university and the new program. Prof. Aleem highlighted that this course is unique among central universities in India, as it is designed not only to prepare professional counsellors but also to uphold professional standards in the field.

The Orientation Program featured distinguished resource persons, including Dr Vandana Thapar, former Joint Director of NIPCCD; Prof. Rekha Sharma Sen from IGNOU; Prof. Zubair Meenai from JMI; Dr Jagriti Singh from AIIMS; Dr Rahul Chandok, a psychiatrist at Artemis Hospitals; and Prof. Bilal Ahmed from the Society for Promotion of Youth & Masses (SPYM) in Delhi.

The graduates of these exclusive programmes will be provided 100 per cent placement support, provided they are able to perform consistently through the programme. They will graduate with an Executive Alumni status and have access to a network of some of the top achievers from IITs — the expected outcome is building an accelerated career at some of the top organizations.

The scholarship will provide Rs. 1.2 lakhs to B.Tech and B.Sc nursing students of four-year programmes, while MBBS students will be able to avail scholarship of Rs. 2.4 lakh. From each eligible location, 10 students will be selected from each stream—MBBS, B.Tech, and B.Sc Nursing—amounting to 30 students for every region.

Australia: new student visa processing directive to replace Ministerial Direction 111



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education system".

The Australian government has announced a new Ministerial Direction that will come into effect on November 14, which it says will "strengthen and balance distribution of international students across education providers in regional and metropolitan locations".

Ministerial Direction 115 will replace Ministerial Direction 111 and will work to support the 2026 National Planning Level (NPL), which sets targets for international student places at Australian universities.

"Throughout 2025 we have seen the positive effect of a managed growth approach across the sector – returning student numbers to a more sustainable level," said Julian Hill, assistant minister for international education in a statement on November 10.

"Growth has moderated, with student lodgements down by over 26% last year and commencements down on last year by 16%," he added.

According to Hill, the introduction of the latest Ministerial Direction will continue "to build on the government's work to maintain the quality, integrity and sustainability of our international

Under the new processing rules, student visa applications will now be assessed through a three-tier priority system. The new framework links processing times to how education providers are tracking against their indicative allocations of new overseas student commencements (NOSC).

Students applying to providers that are under 80% of their allocation (Priority 1) will have their visas processed fastest, typically within one to four weeks of lodgement.

Those linked to providers between 80 and 115% of their allocation (Priority 2) can expect processing times of around five to eight weeks.

Applications associated with providers that have exceeded 115% (Priority 3) will be processed last, with estimated timeframes of nine to 12 weeks.

The government noted that "these periods are based on 2025 lodgements and processing resources and can change, particularly when lodgements increase, and in peak periods".

Hill said that "under the new direction, visa processing resources are allocated to support all education providers on an equitable basis" and that higher processing

- New student visa processing directive adds a third priority level for providers exceeding their NOSC allocation by 15%
- Government says small vocational providers will benefit
- Directive takes effect November 14, with provider briefings planned

priorities will be "afforded to providers who manage their international student enrolments broadly in accordance with their indicative allocations under the National Planning Level".

The assistant minister believes this system will allow for greater "utilisation of allocations to more fairly respond to the needs of small vocational education and training providers".

As with Ministerial Direction 111, certain visa categories continue to receive priority processing.

Information sessions will be held with education providers in November and December to explain the operation of the MD 115.

Hill first flagged the new directive at the 2025 Australian International Education Conference (AIEC), where his speech focused on the government's goals of sustainable growth and sector integrity.

Despite progress toward the government's goal of sustainable growth, Hill told the Canberra audience that more work is needed to improve the "composition, distribution and integrity" of the overall student cohort.

During the interview, Ingraham cited Trump's figure from earlier this year when he said he would allow 600,000 Chinese students to

Trump defends Chinese students in the US



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steal our intellectual property".

Trump's defence of international students in the US stands in sharp contrast to his administration's policies, which have created enormous visa challenges for international students, including a partial travel ban on 19 nations and a near-month-long suspension of new visa interviews during peak processing time this year.

Last month, the administration sent its so-called Compact for Academic Excellence in Higher Education to all US colleges, which would include a 15% cap on institutions' international student undergraduate enrolments, and a 5% limit on students from any one country.

More recently, the government declared it had revoked 8,000 international student visas during Trump's second term, which is more than double the number for 2024.

Chinese students have come under the most scrutiny from the MAGA base. In a move seemingly intended to gain leverage in trade talks with Beijing, Secretary of State Marco Rubio announced earlier this year that he would start "aggressively" revoking Chinese student visas.

Prior to this, a group of Republican congresspeople proposed legislation to halt the issuance of all student visas to Chinese nationals, arguing that Chinese students "spy on our military, steal our intellectual property, and threaten national security".

These results reveal that while some institutions are seeing student numbers grow and finances stabilise, many institutions continue to face significant challenges. Budget cuts, restructurings, and redundancies will continue, and many business schools will face another year of declining student numbers and income," he added.

President Trump has said cutting international enrolments by half would "destroy" America's higher education system, as he came to the defence of Chinese students during

Trump's rhetoric, however, occasionally contradicts his administration's hostile policies, including his stated aim of doubling Chinese student numbers when he said the college system would "go to hell very quickly" without international student fees.

This seeming recognition of the financial value of international students aligns with sector advocacy that has repeatedly emphasised their economic importance, contributing \$43.8bn to the US economy in 2024, according to NAFSA.

But recently proposed policies – including threats to rescind OPT, set time limits on student visas and overhaul the H1-B visa system – are shrinking America's STEM talent pool, which a new study warned could cause annual losses of up to \$480bn for the next decade.

As outlined in the report, international students make up roughly half of all STEM graduate enrolments in the US and foreign-born workers account for nearly a third of the high-skill STEM workforce.

What's more, recent analysis of the ripple effects of China's college expansion revealed Chinese students' central role in driving the US boom in STEM master's programs, and in creating more university places for other international and domestic students.

International enrolments at UK business schools on the mend



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UK business schools continue to be buffeted by hostile immigration policies, with some institutions noting two consecutive years of declining overseas enrolments, according to 2025/26 results from the 2025 Chartered Association of Business Schools (ABS) annual membership survey of 48 members.

But the picture seems to be improving. Almost half of the schools surveyed (46%) reported an increase in international enrolments, up from just 11% the previous year. At the undergraduate level, 45% reported rising numbers, compared with 64% at the postgraduate level.

Nevertheless, the association has pointed to policies affecting international students in the UK as continuing causes for concern for business schools as promises made in Keir Starmer's immigration white paper become a reality.

While international enrolments at the undergraduate level were down on 2024/25 for 14% of respondents, this is far lower than the 39% who reported the same trend in 2024/25.

Similarly, while a sizeable chunk of respondents (39%) said overseas enrolments for postgraduate students were down year on year, this is still a noticeable improvement than over three quarters of respondents the year before.

But the Chartered ABS noted

that international enrolments will still be lower than before 2024/25, with some schools reporting two years of decline in a row.

The Chartered ABS pointed to hostile policies in the UK as a potential reason for declining international enrolments. The UK government's decision to reduce the Graduate Route by six months is already having an effect, it said, with 60% of survey respondents saying the incoming policy has had a negative impact.

"The shortening of the Graduate Route, the ban on student dependants, and the proposals for the international student levy will continue to have a



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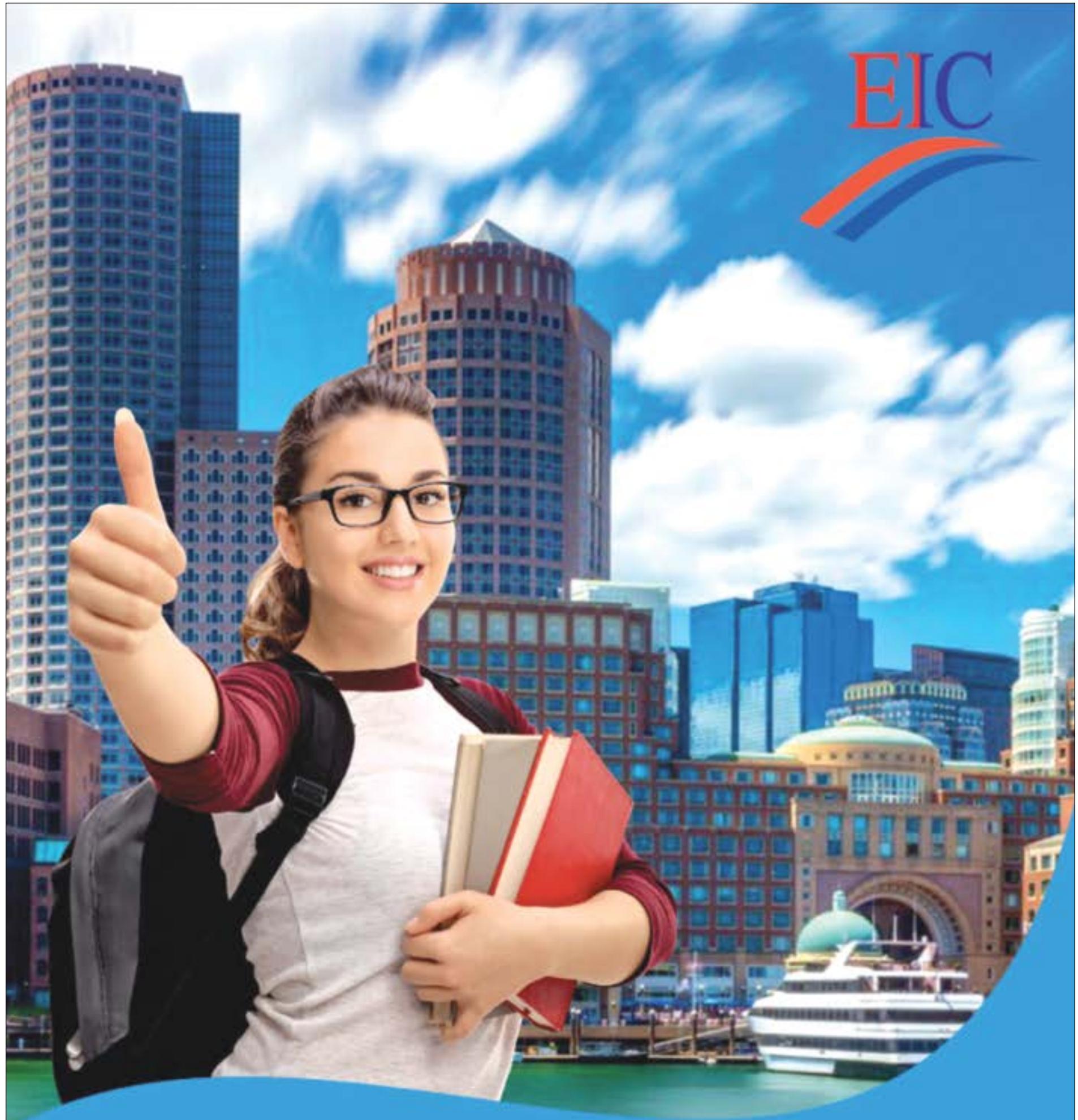
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