IIM-A gets more careful while granting waivers

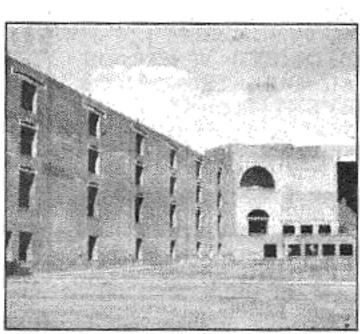
Dayananada Yumlembam ITNN

Ahmedabad: For students at Indian Institute of Management, Ahmedabad (IIM-A) getting a fee waiver at will be a whole new ballgame from this year. The institute has decided to be extra cautious from this year in granting the fee waiver, especially to the students who come from families that have low income but posses huge wealth in various forms.

Students of the institute applying for fee waiver this year will have to produce not only their family income certificates, like last year, but their wealth certificates as well. In 2010-11, out of a total of 690 students of PGP 1 and PGP2, 331 students got varying amount of fee waivers totaling Rs 9.84 crore.

Until last year, students at IIM-A producing certificates showing family income less than Rs 1 lakh per annum used to get a complete fee waiver. Students with family incomes below Rs 6 lakh have been getting fee waivers of varying degrees.

Head of IIM-A's financial aid committee, Ajay Pande, said, "Fee waivers, from this year, will be given to students on the basis of a combination of factors like family income and actual need. This is to ensure fairness and also that the provision of fee waiver is availed by the deserving candidates only. We will be cross



checking details of the students' wealth to know better about their real financial standing."

According to new criteria, a student whose father earns Rs 6 lakh per annum could get 100 percent fee waiver if the student can produce documents to prove that his father supports a large family or incurs heavy expenses on treatment of a chronically ill family member. A year back the same student would have had no option but to pay almost full amount of the fees (Rs 14.9 lakh).

On the other hand, a son of a small farmer, who have got through UPSC exam worked for around 7 years before quitting job to join IIM-A might not be get a waiver. Last year, he could have got 100 per cent fee waiver showing himself as jobless and his father's income of less than Rs 1 Lakh per year. But this year, IIM-A is not turning a blind eye to the amount of wealth that he would have accumulated during his service period which would be sufficient to pay his fee.

MBA, MCA merit list declared

Ahmedabad: The merit lists MBA and MCA admissions were declared on Thursday. Around 22,870 students applied for admission in the two courses this year and all the students have been accommodated in the merit list.

While a total of 14,482 students applied for MBA, another 9,700 students applied for the MCA programme this year. The mock round of the admission will be held from July 16 to 19. This year there are 1200 seats available for MBA students in 114 colleges while for MCA students a total of 4900 seats are available in 52 colleges. GTU has announced that students who fail to submit their mark sheets on or before July 18 will not be entertained for admission to the courses. TNN