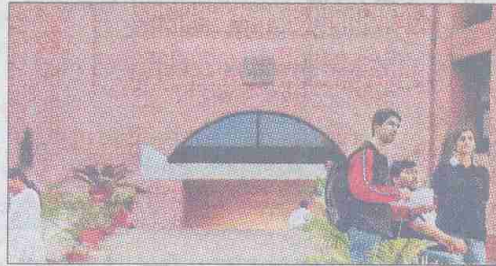


# ISB beats IIM-A in international ranking

A day after ISB is ranked 20th by FT, London, IIM-A doubts statistics submitted by ISB for rankings

**Jumana Shah.** Ahmedabad

There is news, but it is not good for the IIMs. The latest global B-school study by Financial Times, London has ranked Hyderabad-based Indian School of Business at No 20, but the former czars of business education the Indian Institutes of Man-



agement do not find a place in the top 100.

Even as there is a debate on whether the IIMs participated in the study, professors at IIM, Ahmedabad are casting aspersions on the data provided by ISB for the survey. Besides, faculty mem-

bers at the institution also feel it is not very straightforward that ISB has suddenly shot to an enviable top slot after staying away from global rankings for so long.

ISB was founded in 1999 by a group of Fortune 500 entrepreneurs. In less than a decade, the B-school seems to have achieved what the IIMs have aspired for four decades now. Even as they disown ISB as "clinical" educational institution being run by faculty members who do not have a stake in the institution, insiders confide the dons are certainly shaken up.

**Turn to p16**

## ISB beats IIM-A

Director, IIM-A Prof Sameer Barua said, "I am not aware whether IIM-A participated in the study. The FT study has ranked ISB mainly on the basis of the statistics of salaries given by them. ISB has quoted their average relative salary for their alumni as \$1,69,355. One needs to ask ISB

is it correct? Indian students are not offered these salaries. Having said that, any Indian B-school making it to the top is a nice thing, but the numbers quoted by them are indeed worrisome."

A senior faculty member who has been with the institute for over two decades now believes ISB is very well connected in international academic circles because of their affiliation with Wharton, Kellogg and the London School of Business. "IIM-A is also fairly well connected, but only through student exchange programme, not faculty teaching core courses," he said. Besides, he added that their perceived strength is their international visiting faculty, but according to us, there is something fundamentally wrong with that model of education. "ISB is clinical in their approach, while the IIMs are organic to the core. A good institute is where core courses are offered by resident faculty. One can't build a fundamentally strong institution on the basis of visiting faculty," he said.

Head of Public Systems

by strong institution on the basis of visiting faculty," he said.

Head of Public Systems Group Prof G Raghuram reiterated similar sentiment "It is a good thing for an Indian B-school (ISB) to find a place in international rankings. One of the primary areas considered for ratings are the papers published in international academic journals by faculty offering core courses and their 'core' faculty constitutes visiting international professors. But IIM-A has much better resident faculty, whose involvement levels in the education process are at a totally different level and not comparable."