

Decks cleared for ISB Mohali campus

Swati Bharadwaj-Chand | TNN

Hyderabad: After legal glitches and a delay of nearly a year, the decks have been cleared for the Indian School of Business (ISB), Hyderabad, to drive into its second campus at Mohali. The Punjab cabinet has finally given the green signal for the allotment of a fresh parcel of 70-acre land within the upcoming Knowledge City in Mohali for the second campus of the premier B-school.

The new campus, to be up and running for the academic year 2012, is to be set up at an investment of Rs 200 crore and will be funded entirely by donations from four India Inc top guns — Max group founder and chairman Anajit Singh, Bharti group CMD Sunil Bharti Mittal, Atul Punj of Punj Lloyd and the Munjals of Hero group.

“The Punjab cabinet cleared the allotment of a fresh parcel of land a week or so ago. We hope to get possession of the land by March-end and expect to begin construction in the next 3-4 months after inviting bids from developers,” ISB dean Ajit Rangnekar told TOI here.

ISB had engaged a New York-based architectural firm to design the Mohali campus, the land for which is being allotted to ISB on a 99-year lease at a token



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amount of Re 1 per acre.

Though the 70-acre Mohali campus is much smaller than the sprawling 260-acre Hyderabad one, it will have a capacity to eventually accommodate 560 students. However, it will kick off with a capacity of 210 students and over a dozen resident faculty members. The Hyderabad campus currently has 570 students and nearly 40 resident faculty members.

Apart from the basic MBA programme, the Mohali campus will offer specialised programmes in healthcare, infrastructure, manufacturing and public policy.

“After utilising the Mohali campus, we will start expanding the Hyderabad campus, in which currently only about 80 acres of land is being used,” Rangnekar said.

The Mohali campus will be based on Chandigarh’s landmarks, the ISB dean said, adding that it would be a green building.