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THE PATH TO EXCELLENCE

Advertorial, Education Promotional Feature

## 2025 may witness 10% uptick in applications rising to around 3.5 lakhs

Availability of online coaching, along with a surge in entrepreneurial ambitions, has made CAT preparation more attainable

### Broader reach

Like last year, the examination will be conducted in approximately 170 cities giving candidates the option to choose five preferred cities. "It underscores our commitment to broad accessibility for all candidates significantly reducing the travel burden many might otherwise face to reach a test centre. We are meticulously evaluating each potential location to guarantee a good-quality experience, with the flexibility to adjust city selections based on application volumes. Furthermore, we hope to reach candidates in tier-III towns by identifying and partnering with quality centres that possess the requisite infrastructure for the examination," adds Prof Ram.

Attributing the increase in CAT exam applications to several key factors, Prof Ram says, "The rising demand for management education, coupled with the prestige and value of IIMs, makes it an attractive career path. The promise of high-paying jobs, better career prospects, and greater professional growth are significant motivators for aspirants. Furthermore, the increasing accessibility of coaching re-

sources on online platforms, along with a rise in entrepreneurial ambitions, has made CAT preparation more attainable for candidates."

Test-takers should brace themselves for a varying number of questions in each section. While earlier versions had 100 questions, it was reduced in pandemic times to 76 in 2020, and further to 66 in 2021, 2022, and 2023. CAT 2024 had 68 questions, so most likely, the number of

### Current format, coupled with IIMs' diversity initiatives, seems to encourage Humanities, Commerce students to crack the exam

questions in CAT 2025 is not going to be constant. "While the structure stays the same, the number of questions in each section may vary slightly. The exam format and duration will, however, remain consistent," he adds.

### Changing Pattern

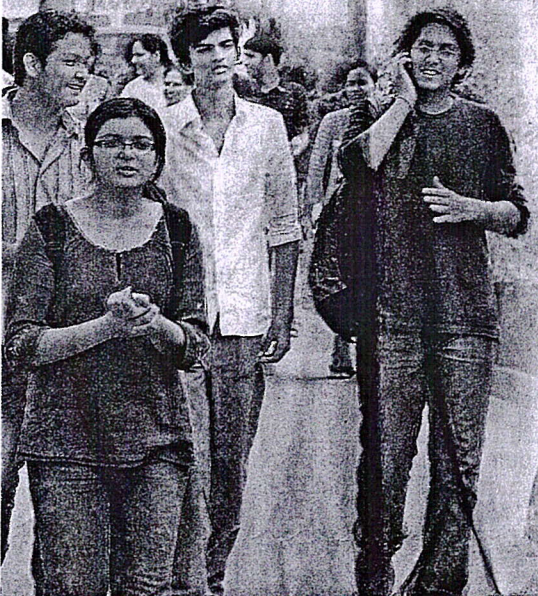
Over the years, the CAT exam has dramatically transformed from a paper-based test to a computer-based format, with significant changes in duration, number of questions, and sectional distribution. The 2020 pandemic led to a shorter, 120-minute exam with fewer questions, a pattern largely maintained ever since. "Beyond the test itself, candidate profiles have shifted. IIMs now actively promote academic and gender diversity, encouraging non-engineers and female candidates. There is also a greater emphasis on work experience and a holistic evaluation that includes academic records, extracurricular activities, and performance in the Written Ability Test (WAT) and Personal Interview (PI), making the selection process far more comprehensive and competitive," Prof Ram says.


The current CAT exam format, coupled with the IIMs' diversity initiatives, seems to encourage Humanities and Commerce students to crack the exam. "While they might need to put in extra effort

in the Quantitative Aptitude and Data Interpretation sections to brush up on their fundamentals, their inherent strengths in Verbal Ability and Logical Reasoning, along with the diversity points offered by IIMs,

create a more balanced playing field than ever before," says Prof Debashis Chatterjee, director, IIM-K.

Even though historically engineering students have dominated CAT, top B-schools are actively working to increase classroom diversity. This has led to several provisions that improve the chances for students from Humanities and Commerce backgrounds.





Approved by : All India Council of Technical Education (AICTE),  
Directorate of Technical Education, Mumbai (DTE),  
Government of Maharashtra and Affiliated to University of Mumbai  
Institute Code : MB3359 Choice Code : 335910210

**ADMISSION NOTIFICATION  
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FOR 2025-2026**

**: FULL TIME COURSE :**

**MBA/MMS**  
(MASTER OF MANAGEMENT STUDIES)

Sanctioned Intake - 180 Institute Level Seats - 36

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**Application form will be issued and accepted from  
04<sup>th</sup> August, 2025 till the date of allotment of Final CAP Round**

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• Address : Sasmira Marg, Worli, Mumbai - 400020

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# समृद्ध पंचायतींची परीक्षा

## रिपाइला हव्यात २० उ

म. टा. खास प्रतिनिधी, मुंबई

मुंबई पालिकेसाठी

आगामी स्थानिक स्वराज्य

वळत सहभागी होणार आहेत. आह. आमच्या १०६ हुतात्म्यांना इथे देवदू देऊन फडणवीस यांच्यावर टीका करू. आम्ही गुजरातीला जाऊन मराठीचा आग्रह धरलो नाही. आधी गुजरातमध्ये हिंदीसक्ती करा आणि मग इकडे हिंदी आणा, असेही राजूत यावेळी म्हणाले.

मराठी भाषेच्या नावे हिंसा होत असले तर त्यावर कारवाई करणार असल्याचा इशारा मुख्यमंत्र्यांनी एका आह. आमच्या १०६ हुतात्म्यांना इथे देवदू देऊन फडणवीस यांच्यावर टीका करू. आम्ही गुजरातीला जाऊन मराठीचा आग्रह धरलो नाही. आधी गुजरातमध्ये हिंदीसक्ती करा आणि मग इकडे हिंदी आणा, असेही राजूत यावेळी म्हणाले.

यांनी सोपितले. यावेळी माजी खासदार राहुल शेवळे, माजी शिक्षण समिती सभापती मंगेश सातमकर, शिवसेना सचिव रामरेपाळे, शिवसेना सचिव संजय मोरे, आणि शिवसेनेचे सर्व प्रमुख पदाधिकारी उपस्थित होते. तर रात्री उशिरा कर्नाटकातील बेळगाव जिल्ह्यातील चिकोडी येथील पुरोहित माजी महाराज आणि त्यांच्या असंख्य अनुयायांनी शिवसेनेमध्ये पक्षप्रवेश केला.

काशीही पद्धतीन पक्ष फाडतील, पक्षचोरी करतील हे चालणार नाही, असे न्यायव्यवस्थेवर प्रेम करणारा म्हणून मला महत्त्वाचे वाटते, असे सरपंच यांनी एक्सप्रेसवर पोस्ट केले आहे.

## मुंबईबाहेर गेलेल्या मुंबईकरांना परत आणणार'

### उपमुख्यमंत्री एकनाथ शिंदे यांचे प्रतिपादन

: खास प्रतिनिधी, ठाणे



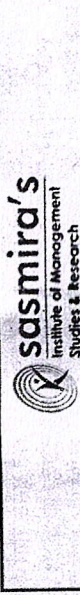
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अर्थव्यवस्था मज्ज्यात आणण्यासाठी मुंबईबाहेर गेलेल्या मुंबईकरांना परत आणणार' असा ठोस इशारा देत उपमुख्यमंत्री एकनाथ शिंदे यांनी आज ठाणे येथे पत्रकार परिषदेत पत्रकारांशी बोलताना म्हणले. शिंदे यांच्या या वक्तव्यावर उपस्थित पत्रकारांनी जोरदार प्रतिक्रिया व्यक्त केली. त्यांच्या वक्तव्यावर उपस्थित पत्रकारांनी जोरदार प्रतिक्रिया व्यक्त केली. त्यांच्या वक्तव्यावर उपस्थित पत्रकारांनी जोरदार प्रतिक्रिया व्यक्त केली.

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राल्पवयीनांना मद्यविक्री; रा रोडमध्ये गुन्हा दाखल



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महाराष्ट्र टाइम्स प्रिन्टिंगसाठी mtrdhit@timesofindia.com

महामुंबई

मुंबई पालिकेसाठी

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