

MANAV RACHNA EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS

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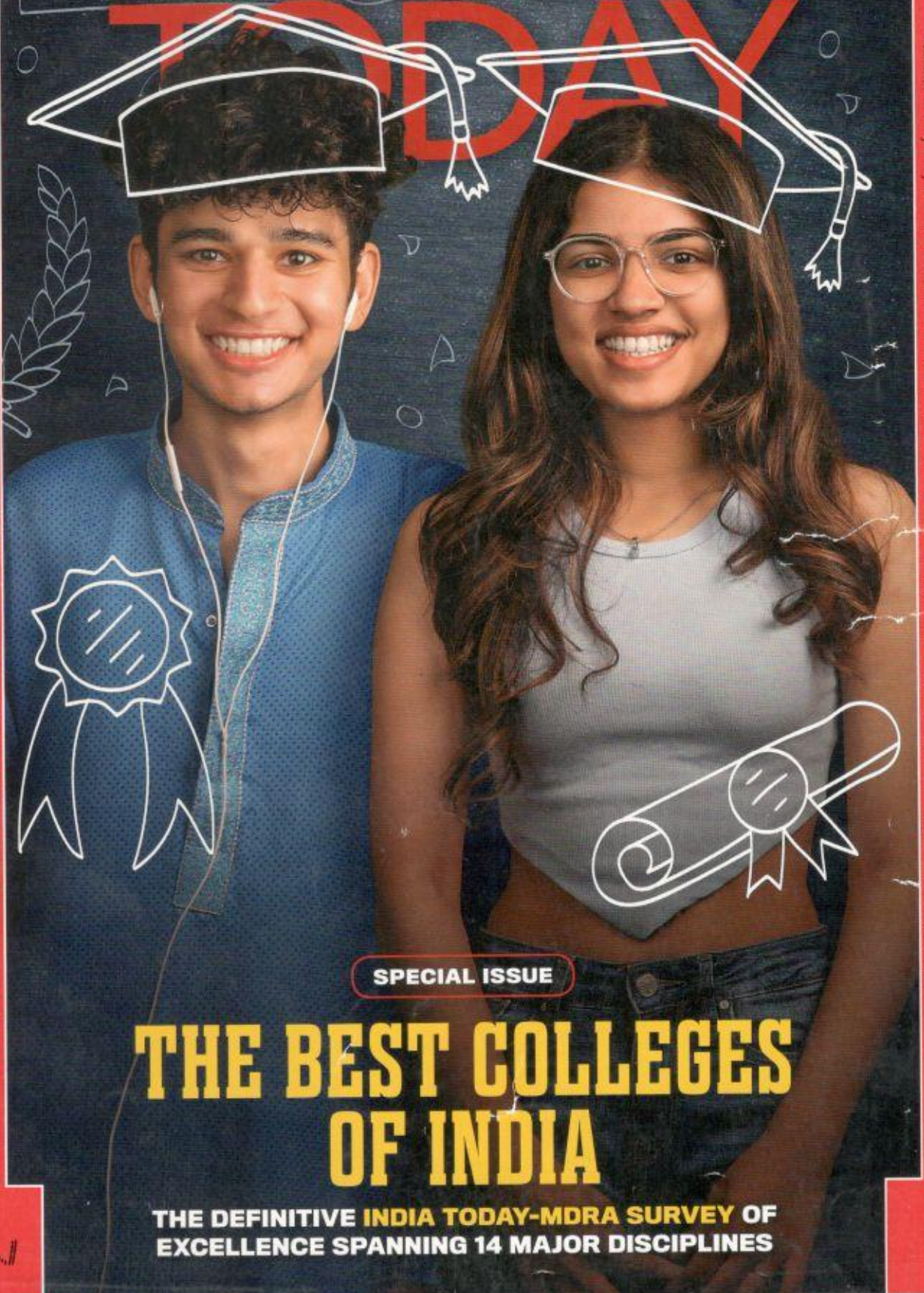
AGNIPATH SCHEME: BAPTISM BY FIRE

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Nandini S., a graduate in earth and environmental sciences from the Indian Institute of Science, Bengaluru, is yet to complete her nine-month-long post-graduate diploma in English Journalism from the Indian Institute of Mass Communication (IIMC), New Delhi. But along with 10 other students of the course, she has already grabbed a job at the multinational media conglomerate Thomson Reuters. As a trainee correspondent, Nandini, who hails from Kerala's Ernakulam, will be paid an annual salary of Rs 5 lakh.

Her batchmate in the Radio & Television Journalism course, Rishabh Vats, has also been offered a job by a new channel, though he is yet to make up his mind. The Ranchi boy believes that the multidimensional training at IIMC makes him capable of finding better opportunities. He has a reason to feel confident. The official campus placements are yet to begin—scheduled in July, they will follow the final examinations, which will be over by the last week of June.

For IIMC students, this is not unusual. The placement records of the institute have been impressive over the years. Even during the Covid pandemic last year, when the institute functioned virtually, it could place 82 per cent of the 358 students enrolled in five courses—English Journalism, Hindi Journalism, Radio & TV Journalism, Advertising & Public Relations and Urdu Journalism. The

TOP 10 MASS COMMUNICATION COLLEGES

RANK 2022	RANK 2021	COLLEGE	CITY
1	1	INDIAN INSTITUTE OF MASS COMMUNICATION (IIMC)	New Delhi
2	2	AJK MASS COMMUNICATION RESEARCH CENTRE, JAMIA MILLIA ISLAMIA	New Delhi
3	3	SYMBIOSIS INSTITUTE OF MEDIA & COMMUNICATION	Pune
4	4	DEPARTMENT OF MEDIA AND COMMUNICATION STUDIES, SAVITRIBAI PHULE PUNE UNIVERSITY	Pune
5	6	MANIPAL INSTITUTE OF COMMUNICATION, MAHE	Manipal
6	7	XAVIER INSTITUTE OF COMMUNICATIONS	Mumbai
7	8	DEPARTMENT OF MEDIA STUDIES, CHRIST (DEEMED TO BE UNIVERSITY)	Bengaluru
8	9	INDIAN INSTITUTE OF JOURNALISM & NEW MEDIA	Bengaluru
9	10	MANORAMA SCHOOL OF COMMUNICATION (MASCOM)	Kottayam
10	12	MAKHANLAL CHATURVEDI NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF JOURNALISM & COMMUNICATION	Bhopal

highest package offered was Rs 8.6 lakh per annum, while the average salary offered was Rs 4 lakh annually.

Prof. Pramod Kumar, who heads the placement cell, believes that the number of placements will be much higher this year as there was no campus placement last time. His students are confident. "We are trained in every aspect of journalism, including print, radio, TV and multimedia. It makes us multitaskers. Besides, we get the opportunity to interact with many stalwarts of journalism who regularly visit the campus as guest lecturers. It becomes easier for us to get placed because the industry knows what we are capable of," says Vats.

His teachers agree and assert that a stint in IIMC is no less than being in a functional newsroom. "Practical learning and industry orientation is very high in IIMC. We have a panel of nearly 80 professionals as guest faculty, and they have exemplary