

### In course change, ISB looks online

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**Hyderabad**The Hyderabad-based Indian School of Business (ISB) is reviewing the course curriculum of its flagship masters in business administration programme and expects to complete the process by April next year.

The institute has formed a curriculum review committee comprising eight members, which began the review process in May and is collecting data for the same. "Curriculum review is a yearlong process and we do this every five years. We are collecting data and the process is in its infancy at present. Faculty from every area of specialisation and area leaders from our partner schools are a part of the committee," said ISB senior associate dean (academic programmes) and head of the committee Dishan Kamdar.

The review of the curriculum includes the tenure of the programmes, pedagogy like experiential and simulation learning, taking into account the challenges faced by industry.

ISB deputy dean Deepak Chandra added that not only the faculty, but all stakeholders like alumni and the industry are part of the review process. "After this exercise, we may have more students on the field like other global B schools. Though the review procedure will be done next year, we are not sure when will it be implemented," he said.

Kamdar added that the review is like an audit which will help the school retain its relevance. ISB's partner schools, like the US-based Fletcher School of Law & Diplomacy and MIT Sloan School of Management, are recommending what new courses the school can offer. Similarly, the Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania is advising ISB on its healthcare management programmes.

Interestingly, the school is also looking at launching online MBA programmes. The programme could be on the lines of the Accenture Management Development Academy in India, an online classroom and on-the-job training programme, designed to develop leaders from Accenture's mid-level management in India.

The B school is also planning to launch a specialised masters programme in manufacturing and public policy by March next year from its Mohali campus. The programme will be meant for executives with 7-15 years of work experience – a category that ISB is not catering to.

Terming this as an innovation in the curriculum, Kamdar said: "We will have students majoring in these two programmes — something which other schools don't offer."

He, however, explained that if the committee doesn't find a need to change the curriculum, there would be no major reforms and only a slight tweaking would be done in tandem with the changing needs of the training industry. Also, the core offerings of the MBA programme – finance, strategy, marketing, operations and IT management – may be retained with a change in the number of courses.