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NMAT 2011 – Exclusive Report

Narsee Monjee Institute of Management Studies (NMIMS) was established in 1981 by Mumbai University with the goal of delivering quality management education. NMAT (NMIMS Management Admission Test) is a test conducted for the 780 seats of around eight different programs of NMIMS Mumbai, Bangalore and Hyderabad campuses. These programs are: MBA Full Time- Core, MBA Actuarial Science, MBA Banking Management, MBA Capital Market, MBA Pharmaceutical Management, MBA Human Resources, EPGDBM Bangalore Campus, PGDM Bangalore Campus. A candidate can apply for more than one program at a time. NMIMS have different selection criteria for different programs. Some of the salient features of NMAT 2011 are as follows -

- It is the second largest management entrance examination in CBT format.

- NMAT-2010 was the first successfully conducted management entrance exam in CBT format, when it transitioned from Pen and Paper format last year.

- NMAT 2011 offers a maximum choice of 3 attempts to candidates. This option has been developed in the test process to assess candidate's best performance.

- The highest aggregate score of all sections for a given attempt out of all the attempts shall be used for evaluation purposes.

- The re-take option is open to candidates 15 days after they have taken the previous attempt. This means that candidates who appear early in the 3-month window are able to take 3 attempts. The delivery window of 3 months from October 1, 2011 to December 31, 2011 would enable candidates to choose a date and slot, as per their convenience and preparedness.

- The test is conducted in eighteen cities.

- Each candidate taking NMAT 2011 gets a unique but equivalent question paper.

- There are **120 questions** that are needed to be answered in **120 minutes**.

- **Marking Scheme:** There would be no negative marking this year.

- The test is divided into three testing areas viz. Language Skills (LS), Quantitative Skills (QS), and Logical Reasoning (LR).

- **Sectional Breakup of the paper** - LR – 40 questions, LS – 32 questions, QS – 48 questions.

- The NMAT test interface is not too different from that of Prometric's CAT test interface.

- Both interfaces display questions one by one and the test-taker can move between questions by clicking on 'Next' and 'Previous' buttons.

- A timer on the left-top side keeps the time.

- Just as you 'mark' questions for review in the CAT, you 'flag' questions in the NMAT.

- However, the NMAT review screen shows questions separated by sections and also indicates the number of attempts in each section.

- This summary of attempts is a convenience that the CAT interface lacks.

- Unlike in the CAT, you cannot reach the Review screen of the NMAT test from any question in the test.

- You have to reach the last question each time you wish to see the Review screen.

- If we have to pick up one chink in their armor that would be – NOT ABLE TO SWITCH SECTION.

- Everybody wants to be comfortable during the period of the test and getting QA at first makes it a little disadvantageous as regards switching section to DI or VA.

- We guess it's better to strategize than to think on your toes. JUST A BACK-UP PLAN IF QA COMES FIRST.

- Candidates will be shortlisted on the basis of their performance/rank in NMAT for the subsequent evaluation process. i.e., Group Discussion and Personal Interview.

- NMAT is famous for its highest weightage on written test in the selection process. Last year the wieghtage distribution was - Written exam: 70, GD: 7.5, PI: 7.5, Academics: 10 (includes 10th, 12th and graduation), Work Experience: 5.

- It is clearly mentioned in the NMAT handout available at NMAT website that there will be sectional cut-offs for NMAT 2011.

- **Sectional Cut-Offs -** VA – 22+, LR - 33, QA – 30+

- **Overall Cut-Offs -** By observing last year's overall cut-Off (233/360, with negative marking last year). We can predict an overall cut-off around 85 to 90 marks (assuming one mark for each correct answer, with no negative marking this year).

- The test results will be declared in a span of 4-5 weeks from exam delivery. These shall be equated to bring about parity and fairness and will help candidates know their performance in time.

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