

within a fortnight

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While the first phase of computerised CAT 2009 concluded on December 8, the Indian Institutes of Management (IIMs) have announced that a few thousand candidates who have not been able to take the test due to genuine reasons will be able to take the test in about a fortnight.

In a release, IIMB director Prof Pankaj Chandra said, "We regret the inconvenience caused to candidates due to disruptions experienced in the conduct of the tests, particularly in the first three days."

Chandra said that the candidates had reported through various channels the nature of disruptions faced, including pressing of the 'End' button prematurely, malfunctioning of computers on which the test was taken by the candidates and missing graphs and charts.

"We have put in place a process to identify and assess the impact of various types of disruptions noticed and reported during the entire test period. These are being addressed to ensure fairness in the test."

Chandra also said that the test papers had been designed by experts to ensure that none got any unfair advantages.

"Statistical methods are commonly used to equate difficulty levels across the test papers," he said. CAT 2009 was delivered through 361 labs in 104 locations spread across 32 cities. Every edition of the test involved the use of more than 17,000 computers.