



NEWS CLIPS

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IIT Delhi, Regional Centre for Biotechnology Faridabad sign MoU for academic and research collaboration

November 29, 2020 <https://indiaeducationdiary.in/iit-delhi-regional-centre-for-biotechnology-faridabad-sign-mou-for-academic-and-research-collaboration/>

Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Delhi and Regional Centre for Biotechnology (RCB) Faridabad have signed an MoU to establish “RCB-IITD Collaborative Platform” for initiating wide-ranging collaborations involving academic, research, and human resource development, which will have a profound social and economic impact for the country.

Under the MoU, both institutions will collaborate:

- To carry out joint research by submitting joint research proposals to external funding agencies.
- To make intramural funding for the projects in both IITD and RCB, to initiate the collaborative research among different biological and engineering disciplines of these two institutions.
- To jointly organize seminars, conferences, workshops, and short-term continuing education programs on mutual interest topics with participation from faculty from both sides.
- To guide research candidates registered in either of the institutions for doctoral and post-graduate programs with joint-supervision.
- To cooperate on any other activities that may be identified on a consensual basis as and when such an opportunity arises.
- To access the research facilities for each institution.

Speaking of the MoU with IIT Delhi, Dr. Sudhanshu Vrati, Executive Director, RCB Faridabad, said:

“This should encourage multidisciplinary research at the two institutions with the expertise of RCB faculty in biotech sciences and IIT Delhi in engineering and sciences.”

Welcoming the MoU with RCB, Prof V. Ramgopal Rao, Director, IIT Delhi, said: “IIT Delhi has invested about Rs 300 crores in last 3-4 years to create Advance Central Research facilities on its main campus and Sonipat campus in Haryana. We continue to invest in creating high-end research facilities under which a state of art Cryo-EM facility will be installed very soon. We invite RCB scientists to come and utilize these facilities at IIT Delhi.”

He also invited RCB Faridabad to utilize the incubation facilities available at IIT Delhi.

The Collaborative Platform will connect the faculties, students, and researchers across different disciplines in the RCB and IIT Delhi. They can develop specialized groups for academic and research, leading to cutting-edge innovations with the fruitful translational outcome.

IIT Delhi startup launches self-sanitising reusable masks, zero alcohol sanitiser

November 25, 2020 <https://www.edexlive.com/news/2020/nov/25/iit-delhi-startup-launches-self-sanitising-reusable-masks-zero-alcohol-sanitiser-16101.html>

The RubSafe sanitizer, with a zero alcohol composition, offers 24 hour protection against all types of viruses and microbes

With the COVID-19 crisis still looming, and the nation gradually shifting back to normal; there is a dire need for innovative solutions - now more than ever. An IIT Delhi startup named "Nanosafe Solutions" which launched the revolutionary self-sanitizing 50 wash reusable N95 grade antiviral NSafe masks, has now come up with patented active copper (AqCure™) infused zero alcohol sanitizer cum moisturising lotion that can provide prolonged protection upto 24 hours to all exposed parts of the body.

The team claims that RubSafe can deactivate most enveloped as well as non-enveloped viruses including SARS-CoV-2; which causes COVID-19. And against conventional nano silver based sanitizing solutions, this sanitizer from Nanosafe provides a much safer alternative with nano copper infusion. Copper is an essential micronutrient for the human body and together with iron, enables the body to form red blood cells (RBCs).

Conventional alcohol-based sanitizers might be antimicrobial, but their effects last for a short period. Since alcohol has a high evaporation rate, soon after application, the skin is left unprotected. Babies, for example, have sensitive skin, and alcohol, being an abrasive, affects them adversely.

The RubSafe sanitizer, with a zero alcohol composition, offers 24 hour protection against all types of viruses and microbes. The sanitiser can effectively last throughout the day, delivering added protection against any kind of infection or germs.

"To date, most sanitizing solutions are infused with either alcohol, most of the time or in some cases nano silver. And the toxicity of silver is a well-known fact. During my research years, I got to learn about the benefits and drawbacks of using silver, copper, and zinc as anti viral solutions. That is when we zeroed on copper as our sanitization and antimicrobial solution," said Dr Anasuya Roy, Founder & CEO, Nanosafe.

Nanosafe's flagship product - NSafe mask was touted even better than N95 masks owing to its self-sanitizing, and water repellent layers. It could be reused over 50 times and hence was probably the safest and most economical option available in the market. Its another flagship product AqCure water bottles and containers are the world's first antiviral water bottles in which stored water gets free from microbes upon storage.

With the RubSafe range of nano copper infused sanitizing lotion, Nanosafe envisions a future free from alcohol-based sanitizers. Currently it is available in two aromas - lavender and lemongrass. Nanosafe has collaborated with specialty finishing company Britacel Silicones to manufacture this product.

While the infected cases are still rising, and fatalities are at an all time high, the world is constantly trying to return to normal with effective social distancing. In such challenging times, the students, employees, healthcare workers, essential service providers who have no choice but to head out, deserve more such innovative products.

And with premier institutes like IITs taking the charge, we can be rest assured of a future where we are well-prepared for, God forbid, pandemics like these. Rubsafe, the zero alcohol sanitizer, is available at nanosafesolutions.com.

Indian universities rise in employability ranking, IIT-Delhi most employable in country: Times Higher Education

November 21, 2020 <https://indianexpress.com/article/education/uk-us-universities-decline-in-employability-india-on-a-rise-iit-d-most-employable-in-country-the-7054566/>

The US' country score has fallen by 51 per cent in the last 10 years from 4,227 in 2010, to 2,067 in 2020, as per the report. Despite the dip it is the US-based California Institute of Technology which has attained first place to become the most employable university in the world

India is the 15th most employable country in the world, as per the Employability ranking 2020 released today. India has seen a rise in employability, up from 23rd rank in 2010. The most employable institute in India being the IIT-Delhi which has attained the 27th rank worldwide. The report termed IIT-Delhi as “a microcosm of India’s success story in the past 10 years”. India is on a rise while its western counterparts — US and UK are seeing a decline, reveals a 10-year study by French consultancy Emerging and published by the Times Higher Education (THE).

Beyond their elite institutions, UK and US universities have declined while Germany, mainland China, South Korea, and India are the most progressive performers for employability, claims the report. The US country score has fallen by 51 per cent in the last 10 years while the UK’s country score dropping by 46 per cent.

The report claims that the US universities are struggling to compete in terms of value for money, as they lack the strong global brand recognition of their elite compatriots. While in the UK, only a small group of elite institutions are covering the general decline of its higher education system. “Despite the likes of the University of Cambridge, University of Oxford, and Imperial College London improving or maintaining positions in the top 20 since 2019, the UK has fallen from the second spot in 2010 to fourth in 2020 in terms of the best-performing countries and regions for employability,” as per the study.

Despite the dip, it is the US-based California Institute of Technology which has attained first place to become the most employable university in the world. Further, the Massachusetts Institute of Technology has gained second, and Harvard University got the third spot. A total of 32 countries and regions represented in the top 150 as opposed to 24 in 2010 in the French consultancy Emerging and Times Higher Education (THE)’s Employability Rankings 2020.

Most employable country in the world

Country / Region	2010 Rank	2020 Rank	Change
USA	1	1	0
France	3	2	+ 1
Germany	12	3	+ 9
UK	2	4	- 2
Mainland China	11	5	+ 6
Australia	5	6	- 1
Canada	4	7	- 3
Switzerland	7	8	- 1
South Korea	21	9	+ 12
Japan	6	10	- 4
Netherlands	8	11	- 3
Spain	10	12	- 2
Sweden	9	13	- 4
Hong Kong	17	14	+ 3
India	23	15	+ 8

MOST EMPLOYABLE INSTITUTES IN THE WORLD

RANK 1	California Institute of Technology
RANK 2	Massachusetts Institute of Technology
RANK 3	Harvard University
RANK 4	University of Cambridge
RANK 5	University of Oxford
RANK 6	The University of Tokyo
RANK 7	Stanford University
RANK 8	University of Toronto
RANK 9	National University of Singapore
RANK 10	Yale University

MOST EMPLOYABLE INSTITUTE IN INDIA

RANK 27	Indian Institute of Technology Delhi
RANK 71	Indian Institute of Science
RANK 128	Indian Institute of Technology Bombay India
RANK 184	Indian Institute of Management Ahmedabad
RANK 195	Indian Institute of Technology Kharagpur
RANK 236	Amity University

The Indian EXPRESS

Universities will have to focus on their employability as the study claims that over the past 10 years, students and their parents are even more motivated by the ability to get a job rather than the brand name or reputation that universities hold. The COVID-19 pandemic has made the challenge of finding work even more difficult for graduates worldwide, claims the report.

The strongest challenge to the traditional dominance of the US and UK is coming from Asia. Mainland China's country score saw an increase of 132 per cent over the past 10 years and it is now ranked as the fifth most employable country or region worldwide. Even South Korea has seen huge

improvements over the 10-year period. It is now the 9th most employable in the world after a rise of 1157 per cent in its country score, over the 10 years.

Two of the biggest English-speaking challenges to the US and UK are Canada and Australia, which have both seen steady improvements over the past decade in the rankings. Over the past 10 years, both countries have retained the top 10 positions for the best-performing countries and regions for employability.

Jamie Ramacciotti, head of student content, THE, commented: “Employability represents the return of investment on education for many students and their families, and it can be a critical part of the decision-making process as students decide where and what to study. Students want to feel confident that the investment of both time and money in a degree program will make them strong candidates for jobs post-graduation. The latest Employability Rankings show that students have a wide range of choices when it comes to the study destinations that will help power the early years of their career. While the elite institutions of the US and UK remain right at the top of the tree, Australia, Canada, and many others offer a first-class education if employability is your primary goal.”

IIT-Delhi’s classic solution to check air pollution

November 18, 2020 <https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/delhi/iit-ds-classic-solution-to-check-air-pollution/articleshow/79270640.cms>



Want to get your car converted into an electric vehicle? IIT Delhi’s Centre of Excellence for Research on Clean Air (CERCA) is ready to help. The IIT thinktank on Monday launched an initiative on electric mobility with the retrofitting of a vintage Beetle car of 1948 model into an electric vehicle. Hemant Kaushal, project coordinator, CERCA, believes that “there is a need to improve infrastructure for electric vehicles in Delhi where air pollution is an issue.” “CERCA is ready to provide expertise and help all those willing to get their cars retrofitted into electric vehicles,” he said.

The Beetle car programme was attended by several members of Heritage Motoring Club of India (HMCI).

While launching the electric Beetle, IIT-D director V Ramgopal Rao pointed out how “e-mobility has been the buzzword in the automobile industry and the need to adopt e-mobility is not just essential, but also pressing for safeguarding the planet.” Rao stated that this was the time to realise the damage already caused and bring a halt to it by shifting to more sustainable alternatives, such as electric vehicles.

CERCA founder Arun Duggal said that “CERCA was established to promote research and actions to reduce air pollution. Electric Beetle is a symbolic action to demonstrate that we can take actions to eliminate air pollution in Delhi-NCR and in India by use of technology and innovation. One of the most amicable answers to the problem of air pollution today is the transition to EVs, which are considered 100 per cent emission-free.”

Hindustan, Delhi
Sunday, 8th November 2020; Page: 9
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आईआईटी दिल्ली ने बड़ी जिम्मेदारी निभाई: निशंक

नई दिल्ली | प्रमुख संवाददाता

आईआईटी दिल्ली में तीन छात्रों को प्रेसिडेंट गोल्ड मेडल, डायरेक्टर्स गोल्ड मेडल व डॉ. शंकर दयाल शर्मा गोल्ड मेडल प्रदान किया गया। जबकि 10 सीजीपीए लाने वाले 6 छात्रों को परफेक्ट 10 गोल्ड मेडल प्रदान किया गया।

इस अवसर पर केंद्रीय शिक्षा मंत्री रमेश पोखरियाल निशंक ने कहा कि दीक्षांत का मतलब यह नहीं कि दीक्षा अंत हो गया। बल्कि यह सीखने सिखाने की प्रक्रिया तो जीवन पर्यन्त चलती रहती है। दरअसल दीक्षांत के बाद ही छात्र की असली परीक्षा प्रारंभ होती है। जब वह जीवन जगत व रोजगार के क्षेत्र में प्रवेश करता है। जहां उसे संस्थान में पाए सैद्धांतिक ज्ञान एवं अनुभवों का व्यावहारिक जीवन में उपयोग करना होता है। आईआईटी दिल्ली इसी व्यापक सोच के साथ आगे बढ़ रही है।

उन्होंने कहा कि सरकार ने स्क्ल डेवलपमेंट, मेक इन इंडिया, आत्म निर्भर भारत अभियान जैसे योजनाओं को एक विशाल लक्ष्य के साथ लागू किया है। ताकि हमारे युवा नौकरी तलाश करने के बजाय नौकरी देने वाले बन सकें। उन्होंने कहा कि कोरोना काल में आईआईटी दिल्ली ने आरटी पीसीआर किट के माध्यम से न केवल कोविड-19 की जांच को सस्ता बनाया बल्कि अपने स्टार्टअप की मदद से 45 लाख पीपीई किट मुहैया कराकर सामाजिक जिम्मेदारी निभाई। इस अवसर पर आईआईटी के निदेशक प्रो. राम गोपाल राव ने पूर्व छात्रों को भी सम्मानित किया गया।



- रमेश पोखरियाल निशंक

प्रेसिडेंट्स गोल्ड मेडल

- दीपाशु जितल (बीटेक इन कंप्यूटर साइंस एंड इंजीनियरिंग)

डायरेक्टर्स गोल्ड मेडल

- आशी अग्रवाल (बीटेक इन टेक्सटाइल टेक्नोलॉजी)

डॉ. शंकर दयाल शर्मा मेडल

- मुस्कान कुलारिया (एमटेक इन एंलाएड ऑप्टिक्स)

परफेक्ट 10 गोल्ड मेडल

- मुस्कान कुलारिया (एमटेक इन एंलाएड ऑप्टिक्स)
- एन जयकृष्णन (एमटेक इन मैकेनिकल डिजाइन)
- हिमांशु यादव (एमएससी मैथमेटिक्स)
- वेनू गोपाल अग्रवाल (मास्टर ऑफ साइंस (रिसर्च) इन मैकेनिकल इंजीनियरिंग)
- हरित रॉय (एमएससी इन मैथमेटिक्स)
- शुभम चौधरी (मास्टर ऑफ साइंस (रिसर्च) इन इलेक्ट्रिकल इंजीनियरिंग)

You have ease of doing business, work on ease of living: Modi tells IIT-Delhi graduates

November 8, 2020 <https://www.hindustantimes.com/india-news/you-have-ease-of-doing-business-work-on-ease-of-living-modi-tells-iit-delhi-graduates/story-CVt5ZY7JW4j1j2QAVITcbK.html>

Modi urged the students to work towards finding solutions to the country's existing problems.



PM Narendra Modi virtually addressing the graduated during the 51st Annual Convocation Ceremony at Indian Institute of Technology (IIT Delhi), in New Delhi, India, on Saturday, November 7, 2020.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Saturday said technology and innovation would play a major role in the post-Covid-19 world as he urged graduating Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Delhi students to identify with the aspirations of the common people in the context of the government's Atmanirbhar Bharat (Self-reliant India) campaign.

“The post-Covid-19 world is going to be very different and technology has to play a major role in it. Covid-19 has changed the way things are being conducted today. Virtual reality and augmented reality are becoming the working reality now...it has taught us while globalisation is important, self-reliance is equally important. Today, a favourable environment has been created for the implementation of the ideas and innovation of technocrats and to scale them and market them easily. The country is now committed to giving you the ease of doing business so that you can work on providing ease of living to your countrymen through your ideas and innovations,” the Prime Minister said in his address as the chief guest at IIT Delhi's 51st annual convocation ceremony, via video conferencing.

Modi urged the students to work towards finding solutions to the country's existing problems. “Indians have immense faith in technology... There are immense possibilities for you in the country and there are immense challenges confronting the country for which you can give solutions. A lot of work can be done in areas such as disaster management, maintaining the groundwater level, solar power generation, telemedicine, and big data analysis. I can place before you several other examples of the country's needs,” he said.

Modi added that the challenges could be addressed with innovations, new ideas, and efforts...“That is why it is my request to identify with the aspirations of the common people in the context of Atamnirbanar Bharat.”

Modi asked the students to try to turn the adversity into opportunity amid the pandemic. “You may be feeling your batch is not lucky. I am sure you are asking why did this happen with our graduating batch. But think of it differently. You have a first-mover advantage. You have more time to learn and adapt to the new norms emerging in the workplace and beyond. So, make the most of it and look on the brighter side too,” he said.

The Prime Minister gave four mantras to the students for their workplace. Focus on quality, never compromise, ensure scalability; make your innovations work at a mass scale. assure reliability; build long-term trust in the market and bring in adaptability; be open to change and expect uncertainty as a way of life.

Modi asked the students to continue challenging themselves. “It is important that one keeps challenging oneself and continues to learn every day. It is also important that you treat yourself as a student for life. Never think that what you know is enough.”

Union education minister Ramesh Pokhriyal Nishank, who was the guest of honour at the event, congratulated the graduating students for their hard work, commitment. He said, “A new chapter begins today that has to pass the test of the time and in future students should come back to your alma mater one day to offer your ‘Guru-Dakshina’. I appeal to you all to contribute to nation-building initiatives as we are the world’s biggest nation in terms of human capital, and we must all work towards fulfilling the vision of our Prime Minister in creating a 5 trillion dollar economy by 2024.”

Nishank also launched an online certificate programme called e-VIDYA under which the institute will offer online certificate courses in areas like cyber-physical system, security, renewable energy storage, and conversion, embedded systems, machine learning, and construction project management, etc.

During the convocation, 2,019 students were awarded degrees, of whom 873 are undergraduate students, 848 postgraduates, and 298 PhD scholars.

Presenting the Director’s report on this occasion, IIT-D director V Ramgopal Rao said, “In the last five years, IIT Delhi faculty and students have written over 10,000 high-quality papers, filed over 500 patents, executed roughly 150 industry projects and obtained over Rs 1,300 crores of research funding from competitive grants from all over the world. We have also created 18 new Centers of Excellence with funding from alumni, industries, and government agencies in the last five years. These numbers are anywhere from 2 times to 4 times higher compared to any previous five-year periods since the inception of the institute.”

IIT Delhi 51st Convocation 2020: Technology to be vital in post COVID world, says PM Modi to students

November 7, 2020 <https://www.timesnownews.com/education/article/iit-delhi-convocation-2020-pm-modi-to-address-51st-convocation-ceremony-of-iit-delhi-at-11-am-watch-here/678592>

Prime Minister Narendra Modi has addressed the 51st convocation ceremony of IIT Delhi today- All those who wish to watch can do so through the direct link shared here

<https://youtu.be/CchfBO2Ik7w>

Prime Minister Narendra Modi has addressed the students of Indian Institute of Technology, IIT Delhi on their 51st convocation ceremony which is being held today, that is on November 7, 2020. Those who wish to watch can do so through the link shared here. He said that the students must count themselves lucky to be one of the first batches to embrace technology in post COVID world.

"You are all students with exceptional abilities. After all, you passed one of the toughest exams, the JEE! And then you came to IIT. But, there are two things that will enhance your ability even more. One is flexibility and the other is humility," PM Modi said.

He went on to say, "by flexibility, I refer to the possibility to stand out and fit in. At no point in your life must you shed your identity. Never be a 'Lite Version'. Be the original version. At the same time, never hesitate from fitting into a team. Individual efforts have their limits."

As per Dr V Ram Gopal Rao, the director of IIT Delhi, "the Prime Minister will be the chief guest at the 51st Annual Convocation ceremony of IIT Delhi on November 7. He will address the Convocation through video conferencing."

The director also added, "the convocation will be conducted in a hybrid mode with a physical in-person ceremony with limited attendance in the institute's Dogra Hall and an online webcast reaching out to all graduating students, their parents, distinguished alumni, invited guests and everyone else. Degrees will be conferred on 2019 graduating students."

The Prime Minister also tweeted, "Looking forward to addressing the Annual Convocation of IIT Delhi at 11 AM tomorrow. Congratulations to all the graduating students and their parents, teachers as well as the support staff on this momentous occasion."

Five IIT Delhi alums would be receiving the 'Distinguished Alumni Award' and one alumna would be given the 'Distinguished Alumni Service Award. As per information released, Dr Shankar Dayal Sharma Gold Medal is awarded to a graduating PG student who is adjudged the best among all MTech graduating students for general proficiency, including character and conduct, excellence in academic performance, extra-curricular activities and social service. Perfect 10 Gold Medal is awarded to a graduating PG student who secures CGPA of 10 out of 10. The Institute Silver Medal is awarded to a graduating UG student securing highest CGPA in the respective programme.

PM Modi: Atmanirbhar goal not just vision but well-planned economic strategy to become manufacturing hub

November 7, 2020 <https://www.financialexpress.com/economy/pm-modi-atmanirbhar-goal-not-just-vision-but-well-planned-economic-strategy-to-become-manufacturing-hub/2123067/>

The Prime Minister said that India was able to give a strong fight to the virus while due to the "stability of our policies" and that it has emerged as one of the world's preferred investment destination.



Prime Minister Narendra Modi will unveil (through video-conference) the life-size statue of Swami Vivekananda installed in the university campus on November 12

India's quest to become Atmanirbhar is not just a vision but a well-planned economic strategy that aims to use the capabilities of our businesses and skills of our workers to make India into a global manufacturing powerhouse, Prime Minister Narendra Modi said. Addressing the virtual Global Investor Roundtable, Modi asserted that "India is changing and for the better from fiscal responsibility to fiscal prudence, from high inflation to low inflation, from infrastructure deficit to infrastructure surplus, from mismanaged urban growth to holistic and balanced growth and from physical to digital infrastructure."

Modi further stressed on the country's move to recover from the Covid-led downturn that has so far infected nearly 9 million people. The Prime Minister said that India was able to give a strong fight to the virus while due to the "stability of our policies" and that it has emerged as one of the world's preferred investment destination. "It is because of the strength of our system that we could provide food grains to around 800 million people, money to 420 million people, and free cooking gas to around 80 million families."

Just like India's strategy for strengthening the manufacturing base and for building world-class infrastructure, the strategy for the financial sector has also been holistic, Modi said. Some of the major steps, he highlighted, include comprehensive banking sector reforms, strengthening of financial markets, unified authority for the international financial service sector, one of the most liberal FDI regime, a benign tax regime for foreign capital, suitable policy rating for investment vehicles like infrastructure investment trust and real estate investment trust, implementation of insolvency and bankruptcy code, financial empowerment through direct benefit transfer and fintech based payment system like Rupay card and Bhim UPI. "Initiatives around innovation in digital has always been at the center of government policies and reforms," Modi said.

Addressing the students of IIT Delhi at its annual convocation ceremony on Saturday, Modi said that India is committed to providing ease of doing business to its youth. "Our youth can change the lives of crores of citizens with their innovations. The country will give you the ease of doing business, you have to focus on the ease of living of your countrymen." He further urged them to focus on quality

with compromising, ensuring scalability and making innovations work at mass scale, assuring reliability, and building long term trust in the market.

After Mauritius, IIT Delhi plans more foreign campuses

November 7, 2020 <https://menafn.com/1101088132/After-Mauritius-IIT-Delhi-plans-more-foreign-campuses&source=28>



After setting up its first overseas campus in Mauritius, the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Delhi is now looking to expand its footprints abroad and is considering the possibility of setting up more foreign campuses.

IIT Delhi which is spreading Indian education abroad is also the national coordinator of the 'Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) Ph.D Student Programme'. Union Education Minister Ramesh Pokhriyal 'Nishank' said, "The ASEAN Ph.D programme is an initiative of our Prime Minister Narendra Modi which was announced in 2018 in the presence of ASEAN leaders during the Republic Day celebrations."

Nishank spoke at the 51st convocation ceremony of IIT Delhi on Saturday and said, "All IIT institutions are not only institutes of national importance but provide a global platform representing our country."

During the ongoing coronavirus pandemic, IIT Delhi launched the cheapest Covid-19 testing kit. Apart from this, the premier engineering institute has many other research activities related to Covid-19 being carried out by the researchers of the institute in collaboration with industry, international partnerships and government agencies.

IIT Delhi has performed exceptionally well in the field of research and education. It is ranked 47th in the world in 'Engineering and Technology' as per 'QS World University Rankings' and among the top 200 institutions in the world in 'Overall Rankings'.

Nishank said, "These world rankings prove that IIT Delhi is doing a commendable job in the fields of engineering and technology."

Prime Minister Narendra Modi was the Chief Guest on the occasion. Dr. R. Chirambaram, Chairman of the Board of Governors, IIT Delhi, Director Prof. V. Ramgopal Rao along with the honorary degree receiving students and their guardians as well as former IIT alumni also joined the programme through video conferencing.

Explaining the provisions of the new National Education Policy (NEP), Nishank said, "The National Education Policy also suggests higher educational institutions to improve their rankings. IIT Delhi is moving at a rapid pace in this direction. Whether it is education, research or innovation, IIT Delhi has started seven new academic departments and schools in the last 3 years. Nearly 13 centres of excellence have been started in various thematic areas."

"I am confident that not only you but the students currently studying in this institute will contribute to the initiative of nation building. In terms of human capital we are one of the largest countries in the world. So we should work towards fulfilling Prime Minister Modi's dream of becoming a \$ 5 trillion economy by 2024 and this is possible only when we focus on converting our knowledge into wealth," Nishank added while praising all the students who received their degrees at the convocation ceremony.

PM Modi to be chief guest at IIT Delhi's 51st convocation ceremony on November 7

November 6, 2020 <https://www.hindustantimes.com/education/pm-modi-to-be-chief-guest-at-iit-delhi-s-51st-convocation-ceremony-on-november-7/story-sWp39cJNOHyT7NFMrKQsoO.html>

Prime Minister Narendra Modi will be the chief guest at the 51st convocation ceremony of Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) here on Saturday during which 2019 graduating students will be awarded degrees.



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"The Prime Minister will be the chief guest at the 51st Annual Convocation ceremony of IIT Delhi on November 7. He will address the Convocation through video conferencing," IIT Delhi Director V Ramgopal Rao said at an online press conference on Thursday.

“The convocation will be conducted in a hybrid mode with a physical in-person ceremony with limited attendance in the institute’s Dogra Hall and an online webcast reaching out to all graduating students, their parents, distinguished alumni, invited guests and everyone else. Degrees will be conferred on 2019 graduating students,” he added.

The institute will award President’s Gold Medal, Director’s Gold Medal, Dr Shankar Dayal Sharma (former President of India) Gold Medal, Perfect Ten Gold Medals and Institute Silver Medals to the graduating students at the Convocation.

“The President’s Gold Medal is awarded to a student who is topper amongst all graduating UG students for highest academic achievement or CGPA. Director’s Gold Medal is awarded to a graduating UG student for his or her achievements in academics as well as extra-curricular activities,” he said. At the convocation, esteemed alumni with Alumni Awards 2020 will also be felicitated.

“Five IIT Delhi alums will receive the ‘Distinguished Alumni Award’ and one alumna will receive the ‘Distinguished Alumni Service Award’,” Rao added. Dr Shankar Dayal Sharma Gold Medal is awarded to a graduating PG student who is adjudged the best among all MTech graduating students for general proficiency, including character and conduct, excellence in academic performance, extra-curricular activities and social service. Perfect 10 Gold Medal is awarded to a graduating PG student who secures CGPA of 10 out of 10. The Institute Silver Medal is awarded to a graduating UG student securing highest CGPA in respective programme.

JEE Advanced 2021 will be open for 3rd attempt, Direct appearance for affected candidates

November 7, 2020 <https://news.aglasem.com/jee-advanced-2021-open-for-3rd-attempt/>

IIT-JAB announced on October 13, 2020 that students who qualified JEE mains 2020 and had been affected by COVID-19, this year shall be allowed to appear for JEE Advanced 2021 directly, without qualifying the JEE Mains 2021 examination.

Joint Admission Board (JAB) has decided that students who missed the Joint Entrance Examination (JEE) Advanced 2020 shall be provided a second attempt next year. The provision is only those candidates who were not able to take the test due to COVID-19. Authorities further stated that these students will not have to re-qualify the JEE Mains 2021 exam and can directly appear for JEE Advanced 2021. The decision came days after a few students appealed to the Ministry of Education and Indian Institute of Technology, Delhi to conduct a re-examination for students affected by the pandemic.

The announcement regarding the same has been issued by IIT-Delhi which was the conducting institute of JEE Advanced examination this year. Earlier this month, a few students had approached the institution as well as Education Ministry seeking another exam opportunity for COVID-affected students. V. Ramagopal Rao, director of IIT-Delhi replied that the issue shall be discussed in the upcoming meeting of the admission board. Following this, the decision to allow such students to re-appear for the examination next year was announced. However, this is just a one-time exemption for COVID-affected students.

The statement further informed that JAB has the authority to formulate rules and regulations and, devise policies related to JEE. After considering the problems faced by students this year, the board has decided to relax the eligibility criteria and has permitted students for re-examination next year. However, this provision shall only be given to students who have tested COVID-positive under the guidelines issued by the IIT-council.

JAB also discussed various other alternatives for students who couldn't appear for the national-level entrance exam this year. Subsequently, such students shall be allowed to appear for JEE Advanced 2021 without appearing for the Mains examination. They shall be eligible for the entrance test based on their successful registration for JEE Advanced 2020. Eligibility criteria shall also be relaxed by taking the age requirements and criteria under consideration. Furthermore, these candidates shall be considered in addition to rather than a part of the total new candidates appearing for the exam next year. All these provision were decided up on in the meeting to tackle the COVID-related problems suffered by many students across the country.

IIT-Delhi has fewer PG and PhD graduates this year, but enrolments are highest ever, says institute

November 6, 2020 <https://www.hindustantimes.com/delhi-news/iit-delhi-has-fewer-pg-and-phd-graduations-this-year-but-enrolments-are-highest-ever-says-institute/story-GL7SpvFT8fw8H0fsKUJnvl.html>

The Indian Institute of Technology, Delhi (IIT-Delhi) is seeing a slight decrease in the number of postgraduate and PhD students graduating this year in view of the Covid-19 pandemic, but the total enrolments this academic session (2020-21), at 10,900, touched the highest ever mark, the institute said Thursday.



The Indian Institute of Technology, Delhi (IIT-Delhi) is seeing a slight decrease in the number of postgraduate and PhD students graduating this year in view of the Covid-19 pandemic, but the total enrolments this academic session (2020-21), at 10,900, touched the highest ever mark, the institute said Thursday.

During the 51st convocation ceremony Saturday, 2,019 students will graduate from IIT-Delhi, of whom 873 are undergraduate students, 848 postgraduates, and 298 PhD scholars. The number of postgraduates and PhD students who graduated in 2019 was 1,001 and 331, respectively. While these two category of students have seen a dip in numbers, there has been an increase in the number of undergraduates.

Addressing the pre-convocation digital press conference Thursday, IIT-Delhi director V Ramgopal Rao said, "Covid has definitely affected our graduation rate this year but it's not very significant. We managed to quickly move the academic sessions online. All PhD defences and final viva voce were held online. Some students, who needed to experiment in the laboratories, could not complete their thesis work. The labs had remained closed for at least six months."

The institute, this year, will conduct the convocation in a blended mode -- a small number of attendees will be presented degrees in person, while the majority will join the proceedings virtually. Prime Minister Narendra Modi, the chief guest of the ceremony, will attend through video conferencing.

IIT-Delhi has witnessed the highest ever total student enrolment this year at 10,900. "This is the first time we have crossed the 10,000-mark. Over 60% of them are postgraduate and PhD students. This is a significant milestone. IIT-Delhi is now more of a postgraduate institute and not one centered around undergraduate studies," Rao said.

Officials at IIT-Delhi also hinted at their plan to establish a campus abroad, in the backdrop of the National Education Policy (NEP), 2020, which allows Indian varsities to establish campuses abroad. Naveen Garg, dean, alumni affairs and international programmes, said, "We are in some very preliminary discussion with a country. We are keen on setting up a campus outside India. We had a meeting with our counterparts on Wednesday."

The Covid-19 pandemic has also affected the number of patents filed by the institute. "In 2019, we had filed 154 patents but this year, we have filed 115 patents until now. But the institute this year witnessed a significant jump in royalty income from the licensing of these patents. IIT-Delhi has crossed the ₹1-crore-mark in terms of funding from royalty. Some of that money has also come because of our Covid related activities, including a low-cost Covid detection kit developed by the institute," Rao said.

Listing IIT-Delhi's achievement in the past one year, Rao said for the first time, the institute has introduced five new masters programmes in a year. These courses include MTech in Cyber Security and MSc in Economics. Besides, the institute has also introduced two BTech programmes --- engineering and computational mechanics, and materials engineering. The institute at present has academic collaborations with 38 countries, the director said.

When asked about the reopening of the campus, which has been shut since March due to the Covid-19 pandemic, Rao said IIT-Delhi has already allowed PhD students who need the use of laboratories to return to the campus. "We are slowly opening up the campus and around 780 students have already returned and are operating from their hostel rooms. We will next allow MTech students and

then undergraduates. We are prioritising on the basis of students' academic requirements. Meanwhile, the classes are being held online," Rao said.

Nayara Energy inks MoU with IIT-D, Gexcon to strengthen process safety & risk management

November 5, 2020 <https://www.thestatesman.com/cities/delhi/nayara-energy-inks-mou-iit-d-gexcon-strengthen-process-safety-risk-management-1502933681.html>

The MoU is envisaged to enable Nayara Energy to “advance its operational excellence journey and strengthen process safety coherent with global standards”.



Nayara Energy, a new-age integrated downstream energy company, signed a tripartite memorandum of understanding (MoU) with the Foundation for Innovation & Technology Transfer (FITT), IIT-Delhi, and Gexcon to accelerate development and implementation of process safety and risk management standards.

The MoU is envisaged to enable Nayara Energy to “advance its operational excellence journey and strengthen process safety coherent with global standards”.

The company is collaborating with IIT-Delhi and Gexcon to foster “high-performance safety standards and effective mitigation systems” across projects at its Vadinar refinery.

A noted scientist, Dr J P Gupta called for an urgent need for India to develop a Centre of Excellence (CoE) to promote education, research and development in process safety in sync with several global institutes.

He said the proposed CoE would be the “first-of-its-kind” in India that would be involved in training, higher education, research, developing innovative solutions and consultancy work in process safety.

Speaking on the occasion, B Anand, CEO of Nayara Energy, said, “Nayara Energy aims to achieve global leadership in process safety and risk management standards and we are delighted to partner with IIT-Delhi and Gexcon to help us in our process transformation journey. The MoU marks a

significant milestone as it promotes cooperative research and facilitation of ideas in process safety, risk assessment and mitigation modelling.”

COVID-19 Testing Facility Set Up at IIT Delhi

November 3, 2020 <https://www.ndtv.com/education/covid-19-testing-facility-set-up-at-iit-delhi>

Indian Institute of Technology (IIT Delhi) has set up a COVID-19 testing facility at its campus. JITM Skills Pvt. Ltd. is offering RT-PCR based COVID-19 test at just Rs 1200 at sample collection booth in IIT Delhi.

Indian Institute of Technology (IIT Delhi) has set up a COVID-19 testing facility at its campus. JITM Skills Pvt. Ltd. is offering RT-PCR based COVID-19 test at just Rs 1200 at sample collection booth in IIT Delhi. JITM Skills Pvt. Ltd is an ICMR approved and NABL accredited laboratory.

Currently, the RT-PCR test at private labs cost Rs 2400.

The laboratory is conducting the tests through RT-PCR kit COROSURE developed with IIT Delhi.

The COROSURE testing kit has been manufactured using the diagnostic assay developed by premier technology institute IIT Delhi.

The first such testing facility was inaugurated by Prof V. Ramgopal Rao, Director, IIT Delhi on the campus on Tuesday for the institute employees as well as the general public.

The sample collection facility has been set up near IIT Metro Station Gate No. 03, which is adjacent to the IIT Delhi's Gate No. 1.

JITM Skills Pvt. Ltd. will collect samples for COVID-19 RT-PCR Test from today. The sample collection facility will provide services to the people between 7 am to 7 pm every day. The test report will be available within 24 hours.

Doctor's prescription, as well as a prior appointment for the RT-PCR test during the camp, won't be required.