

INDIAN INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY, INDORE (MADHYA PRADESH)

Preamble

On the 17th February, 2009, Indore, which has long been identified as a cultural centre of Madhya Pradesh, will have one more landmark, the Indian Institute of Technology, one of the eight new initiatives of the Government of India in its quest to achieve technological excellence for the nation. The history of the Indian Institute of Technology is a story of by itself. They were a part of the dream of our visionary, first Prime Minister Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, who saw these Institutes as representing "India's urges, India's future in the making...symbolical of the changes that are coming to India." These institutes were designed to provide the necessary dynamism and flexibility of organization in the light of expanding knowledge and changing socio-economic requirements of modern society. The first of the IITs was established at Kharagpur in 1951, followed by those at Bombay(Mumbai), Kanpur, Madras(Chennai) and Delhi. Later two more IITs came up at Guwahati(1994) and Roorkee(2001).

The Present Initiative

In keeping with India's resolve to become a world leader in science and Technology to usher in a new industrial revolution resulting in an unprecedented economic growth, it reassessed the need of its technical manpower and decided to set up eight new IITs. Six of these started functioning from the academic year 2008-09. These were established at Hyderabad, Gandhinagar, Rajasthan, Ropar, Patna and Bhubaneswar. The IIT Indore and IIT Himachal are now on threshold of starting their existence from July 2009. On the 17th February 2009, Honorable Shri Arjun Singh, the Union Minister of HRD will lay the foundation stone of IIT, Indore at its designated site in Simrol in Mhow Tehsil of District Indore on Khandwa road. This has been possible with cooperation and support of Madhya Pradesh Government who have provided the land at Simrol and have also promised to help and provide other infra-structure support.

Mentoring of IIT Indore

The original five IITs were set up with the help of foreign partners because of lack of infrastructure in the country in the aftermath of independence, the new set of IITs will have a new paradigm. They will be each mentored by one of the existing IITs. It is statement of faith that the nation has of the IIT system that it feels confident that the new IITs will come up to the exacting standards that IITs have set for themselves. IIT Bombay has been identified as the mentor for the IIT to be set up at Indore.

About the Mentor

IIT Bombay is located in a sprawling 500 acre campus at Powai in Mumbai. Originally set up with the assistance of UNESCO through the former Soviet Union in 1958, it celebrates its Golden Jubilee this year. Today the Institute is recognized as one of the centers of academic excellence in the country. IIT Bombay is most preferred choice of most of the students who qualify in JEE. IIT Bombay has B.Tech and Dual Degree Programs in 8 Engineering disciplines and Master programs in more than 15 areas. It has now 14 Departments, 3 Schools and 3 Interdisciplinary programs. IIT Bombay has now Laboratory facilities which are comparable to best in world and in certain areas better than many universities across the globe. IIT Bombay's Doctoral Program is also getting due recognition now and it has graduated 200 Ph.D. Candidates just in one year in 2008.

The Centre for Distance Engineering Education Programme (CDEEP) was started by the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Bombay with the express aim of providing high quality distance education in

engineering and science to a large number of participants throughout the country and abroad. CDEEP would like to share the expertise of IIT Bombay faculty with students and working professionals everywhere. The courses offered through distance education are the very same ones that are taken by IIT Bombay students.

SINE, Society for Innovation and Entrepreneurship, hosted by IIT Bombay is an umbrella for promotion of entrepreneurship at IIT Bombay, SINE administers a business incubator which provides support for technology based entrepreneurship.

IIT Indore

Till the Campus of the New IIT comes up, IIT Indore will temporarily function from two floors consisting of a built up area of 3400 sqm. At the Institute of Engineering and Technology (IET), Devi Ahilya Vishwa Vidyalay at Indore. In the session 2009-10, B.Tech. Programme will be started in three disciplines, viz., Computer Science and Engineering, Electrical Engineering and Mechanical Engineering. The intake in each of these disciplines through the JEE will be 40, making it a combined intake of 120 in the first year. In addition to these, three Science Departments (Chemistry, Mathematics and Physics) and the Department of Humanities and Social Sciences will function from the beginning B.Tech. in other disciplines as well as postgraduate programmes in both science and engineering will be subsequently added. As in the case of other IITs, the Institute will be fully residential. Necessary facilities will be rented and provided to the students. In the initial period, the facilities of Library and some of the laboratories of IET will be shared. Simultaneous with the above, the task of getting the new campus ready within a span of three or four years will be undertaken with urgency because the temporary location of then Institute will not be in a position to take the increased load beyond the third year..

As the land for IIT Indore has now been identified, the first task will be to appoint a town planner and an architect and begin construction of the Hostel building, the Administrative and the Academic blocks so that these can start functioning by the end of third year.

To coordinate various activities in connection with the establishment of new IIT at Indore and commencement of classes from August 2009. Prof Devang Khakhar, Director of IIT Bombay who is also Mentor Director of IIT Indore has now set up a 'Cell for IIT Indore' in IIT Bombay, consisting of a Convener and several senior Faculty of IIT Bombay as Members. Professor A.N. Chandorkar, Professor of Electrical Engineering is presently the Convener of this Cell.

IIT Indore Cell has already advertised for Faculty positions in seven Departments and the process of appointing faculty will be completed in next 2 months. This will ensure existence of reasonable number of faculty members at IIT Indore before start of the academic session in July 2009.

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