



भारतीय प्रौद्योगिकी संस्थान मुंबई
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Union Education Minister Shri Dharmendra Pradhan Inaugurates
Landmark Projects at IIT Bombay on NEP Anniversary Project
Evergreen and the Desai Sethi School of Entrepreneurship
(DSSE) Building Officially Launched**

Mumbai, July 29, 2025 – Shri Dharmendra Pradhan, Union Education Minister, today inaugurated Akhil Bharatiya Shiksha Samagam 2025 in New Delhi to commemorate 5 years of NEP 2020. The Akhil Bharatiya Shiksha Samagam (ABSS) 2025, marking the fifth anniversary of the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020, served as a platform for academicians, policymakers, educators, industry leaders and government representatives to review the remarkable progress made under NEP 2020 and chart the way forward.

Minister of State for Education & Minister of State (IC), Ministry of Skill Development & Entrepreneurship Shri Jayant Chaudhary; Minister of State for Education & Development of North Eastern Region Dr. Sukanta Majumdar; and Education Ministers from 13 State/ UTs also graced the occasion. Dr. Vineet Joshi, Secretary, Department of Higher Education; Shri Sanjay Kumar, Secretary, Department of School Education & Literacy; Prominent academicians; Chairperson; Head of Autonomous Bodies under MoE; Regional Officers of CBSE, KVS, NVS; VCs / Directors / Heads of HEIs, senior officials from other Ministries, State Education Secretaries, State Project Directors of Samagra Shiksha, SCERT Directors, Startup Founders; school students were present on the occasion.

On the occasion, the Hon'ble Education Minister of India Shri Dharmendra Pradhan inaugurated landmark projects at the Indian Institute of Technology Bombay: Project Evergreen and the new Desai Sethi School of Entrepreneurship (DSSE) building virtually.

This significant event reflects the Institute's ongoing efforts to transform its higher education landscape through innovation, inclusion and investment in infrastructure—central themes of the NEP 2020. Shri Pradhan's address underscored how these projects contribute meaningfully to building a holistic, future-ready academic ecosystem, aligned with the national vision of a knowledge-driven and Aatmanirbhar Bharat.

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Speaking on the occasion, Shri Dharmendra Pradhan extended his heartfelt wishes on the successful completion of five years of the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020. He stated that NEP 2020 reflects the transformative vision of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, who places education at the heart of India's growth story.

He further remarked that as the nation moves towards the vision of "Viksit Bharat 2047," the National Education Policy serves as a national mission guiding the way forward. He highlighted that over the past five years, the government has succeeded in taking NEP 2020 from policy to practice bringing about a paradigm shift in the education system and reaching classrooms, campuses and communities.

"We are thankful to the Honorable Union Minister of Education for inaugurating our key projects. It will boost our efforts," said Prof. Shireesh Kedare, Director of IIT Bombay.

Multiple Projects, One Vision: Innovation, Inclusion, Infrastructure

The inauguration of Project Evergreen and the DSSE Building exemplify the Institute's longterm commitment to fostering a vibrant academic and research ecosystem while empowering future leaders in science, technology and entrepreneurship.

Project Evergreen: Alumni Powering a New Era in Student Living

Few initiatives in IIT Bombay's history have reflected the power of alumni collaboration quite like Project Evergreen—a landmark effort that brings together vision, generosity, and a deep commitment to the student experience. This alumni-led, alumni-built, and alumnidelivered world-class hostel endeavour has resulted in the creation of three state-of-the-art hostels (H7, H8, and H21), together adding 848 rooms and 1,127 beds, offering students vibrant, thoughtfully-designed spaces to live better, learn better, debate, dream, and build friendships that last a lifetime.

Over 30 batches of alumni have come forward over the years to support Project Evergreen, making it one of the most far-reaching and unifying alumni initiatives in the Institute's history.

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Empowering Women in STEM: Coal India's Pivotal Contribution

As part of IIT Bombay's growing focus on inclusive campus infrastructure, Coal India Limited has played a significant role in strengthening housing for women students. Through a significant contribution, Coal India Limited enabled the creation of Hostel 21 (part of Project Evergreen), a dedicated women's hostel that now accommodates 370 girl students.

"Coal India Limited is proud to support the construction of the new women's hostel at IIT Bombay as part of our commitment to education and gender empowerment under CSR. This collaboration with one of India's premier institutions reflects our belief that quality infrastructure plays a crucial role in nurturing future leaders. As we celebrate CIL's Golden Jubilee, we are honoured to contribute to a project that will benefit generations of young women pursuing excellence in science and technology," said Dr. Vinay Ranjan, Director (HR), Coal India.

This contribution reflects how purpose-driven CSR from public sector enterprises can complement institutional efforts and deliver national impact.

New DSSE Building: Empowering Student Entrepreneurs

The newly inaugurated Desai Sethi School of Entrepreneurship (DSSE) building is designed to be a launchpad for student innovation and enterprise. With collaborative workspaces, labs and incubation facilities, spanning across 1,15,000 sq. ft, the facility supports students and researchers to develop solutions with real-world impact, reflecting NEP 2020's call to nurture job creators, thanks to the generous support of the institute's distinguished alumnus and philanthropist Mr. Bharat Desai and Ms. Neerja Sethi.

DSSE as a pioneering entrepreneurship school has been training aspiring entrepreneurs through academic and pre-incubation programmes and building the talent pipeline for the nation. Since its inception, DSSE's entrepreneurship courses have benefited more than 4,750 students, and over 1120 students have been mentored by the faculty and alumni, close to 430 venture teams formed, and over 109 startups registered by DSSE students.

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This investment in deep-tech infrastructure aligns with India's aspirations to lead in frontier research and global innovation, key themes in the NEP 2020 framework.

“The Desai Sethi School of Entrepreneurship reflects the spirit of India’s National Education Policy — empowering students to think boldly, take risks and translate ideas into impact. With its world-class ecosystem, IIT Bombay is uniquely positioned to shape the next generation of innovators and job creators. Our hope is that this building becomes a vibrant hub where students, mentors, researchers and industry leaders come together to move ideas from lab to market, and from inspiration to enterprise,” said Mr. Bharat Desai.

A Model for Nation-Building through Collaboration

These projects demonstrate the powerful synergy between government vision, alumni generosity, institutional ambition and corporate partnership. As India marks five years of NEP implementation, IIT Bombay stands as a model for how these forces can come together to create inclusive, innovation-ready institutions.

About IIT Bombay

The Indian Institute of Technology Bombay, set up in 1958 as the second IIT, is recognised worldwide as a leader in the field of science and engineering education and research. The Institute was granted the status of 'Institution of Eminence' by the Ministry of Education (the then Ministry of Human Resources Development) on July 9, 2018. IIT Bombay is reputed for the quality of its faculty, cutting edge research, industry relations and the outstanding calibre of students graduating from its undergraduate and postgraduate programmes. The Institute has 17 academic departments, 35 other academic entities (Centres/ Programmes/ Academic facilities/ Hubs/ Externally funded centres and Labs) and three schools. Over the last six decades, more than 75,000 engineers and scientists have graduated from the Institute. It is served by 751 faculty members and about 150 visiting and part-time faculty considered not only amongst the best within the country but also highly recognised in the world for achievements in the field of education and research. On June 4, 2024, IIT Bombay was ranked 1st in India and 118th in the world in the Quacquarelli Symonds (QS) World University Rankings for 2025. On March 12, 2025, IIT Bombay was ranked

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28th in Engineering and Technology in the Quacquarelli Symonds (QS) World University Rankings by Subject for 2025.

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