



Published Date: 03 Aug 2014

## IIT Gandhinagar aims to go international

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Cheerful students at the convocation

Vijay Soneji/dna

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"We want deep engagement and partnership with industry. Also, we want to create a large endowment fund like the world's top universities have. It is my goal to have an endowment fund worth Rs5 lakh per student.

— Sudhir Jain, director, IITGn

Sudhir Jain, director of the Indian Institute of Technology Gandhinagar (IITGn), announced his intention to globalise IITGn. "We are aiming to internationalise the institute to provide truly global education to our students to equip them with the ability to understand cultures and issues globally," he said at the third convocation of IITGn here on Saturday.

The institute conferred degrees on 123 BTech students, 36 MTech students and 2 PhD students. Also, 40 medals were awarded to students for excellence in academics, sports, leadership and community service.

"We want deep engagement and partnership with industry. Also, we want to create a large endowment fund like the world's top universities have. It is my goal to have an endowment fund worth Rs5 lakh per student. GMDC, Underwriter Laboratories, Nielsen, Ricoh in Japan and Nandan Nilekani from India are the largest donors to the organisation," said Jain.

K Venkataramanan, chief executive officer and managing director of Larsen and Toubro, in his convocation speech, urged students to take up disciplines they were passionate about and excel in them. He also advised students to be proficient in good communication as well as knowledge in current affairs and finance. "Skill development and urbanisation are going to be the big things in the country," he said. Rajesh Jangid, a carpenter's son from Rajasthan, ranked 1063 in JEE and was getting admission in IIT-Bombay, too. But he opted for IIT, Gandhinagar. Now, armed with a degree, he has decided to start tuition classes with Sanjay Gill, another IITian to prepare poor students of classes XI and XII at Jogner for the Joint Entrance Examination free of cost.

Neeraj Kumar, who did his PhD in cognitive science, plans to go to Johns Hopkins as post doctoral research fellow for one year. Yash Kotak won the award for outstanding innovation.

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