

East meets West at IIT-Gn

NID designs a dress that combines the western academic attire with the India free-flowing draped garment for the first batch of IIT graduates

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First impression is the last impression, it is said. IIT Gandhinagar (IIT-Gn) does not want to leave anything to chance when its first batch graduates from the institute.

To ensure that the boys and girls are smartly turned up and leave a lasting impression at the convocation, scheduled for July 22, it has finalised a unique dress for the occasion.

The dress is designed by National Institute of Design and is a fusion between the East and the West. The convocation dress is a 'stole-robe' combination which is a classic take on the western academic attire and Indian free-flowing draped garment which is called 'strobe'.

According to IIT-Gn Director Sudhir Jain, "IIT- Gn is all about this mix of the West and the East. We want to be global, but don't want to lose our identity."

The purpose was not to follow the herd. Jain said, "Our ambition is a cocktail of Harvard and Takshashila. We wanted to send across the message that we don't follow the traditions blindly."

SIMPLE AND ELEGANT

The structure acknowledges the simplicity of a draped stole. The project was undertaken by NID's Design Consultancy Services (DCS) headed by Krishna Patel. Sonal Chauhan, faculty at Apparel Design & Merchandising at NID that designed the dress, said, "We have used rich fabrics like mashru, which is traditionally woven in Gujarat and ghicha silk, which is handwoven and handspun khadi silk."

About the design, Chauhan said, "It is quite unique owing to the fusion of fabrics. None of the institutes in Gujarat would be doing something like this. Usually the western robes are made out of polyester as it is made for huge numbers and are mostly rented. IIT Gandhinagar's belief to encourage textile forms was a huge encouragement to the dying textile."



First look of IIT-Gn dress

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