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# IIT-Gandhinagar to set up Rs 1,200cr campus

Dayananda Yumlembam, TNN | Mar 4, 2012, 12.46AM IST

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AHMEDABAD: The new campus of Indian Institute of Technology Gandhinagar (IIT-GN) will be constructed at the budget of Rs 1,200 crore. The work is set to begin within six to nine months, and the campus will flaunt some of the most environment-friendly green buildings in the country.

IIT-GN, which is one of the six new IITs set up in 2008-09, has been allotted the campus of Vishwakarma Government Engineering College at Gandhinagar for the time being. The institute has been allotted a 450-acre plot in Palej village of Gandhinagar district for its campus.

"The preparation of the master plan for the new campus is underway. We are planning to erect buildings with the least amount of carbon emission possible. The facilities and plans for the entire campus are being visualized along these lines," said director of IIT-GN Sudhir Jain.

The master plan for the new campus is being prepared by a Delhi-based consultancy firm. The institute had floated a competition for consultancy firms for the preparation of the master plan. More than 60 domestic and international firms applied for the project.

"Among other criteria, we shortlisted the entries and selected them based on their expertise and experiences in the area of handling green campuses. We are planning to make the movement of vehicles will be limited inside the campus and most of the campus will be pedestrian zones," said Jain. Other plans for the institute's buildings include air-cooling systems instead of air conditioners.

"The new campus will be like a township and will have all required facilities like dispensaries, shopping complex, banks, faculty quarters, students' hostels and so on. The first phase of construction that will begin in around six to nine months from now will be able to accommodate 2400 students. However from the experience and history of other IITs it is clear that the institute will have to accommodate more students and we will have to expand the facilities further."

"Once the master plan is ready, we will be floating a competition for architects. The experience of the architects in the area of green buildings will again be one of the most important criterion for shortlisting them," said Jain.

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