

Publication: The Times Of India Ahmedabad;Date: May 7, 2012;Section: Times City;Page: 5



## IIT-Gn's MTech sees 5-fold surge in aspirants

**Dayananda Yumlembam | TNN**

Ahmedabad: If the number of aspirants for an institute is any indicator of its performance, then the Indian Institute of Technology, Gandhinagar (IIT-Gn) has shown signs of a promising growth. The institute has received a five-fold increase in the number of its aspirants this year.

The number of applications for MTech programmes at IIT-Gn has increased from around 290 applications per programme last year to over 1,400 applications per programme this year.

Until last year, IIT-Gn was offering MTech programme in two subjects – mechanical engineering and civil engineering. This year, it has increased the number of MTech programmes to five by introducing chemical engineering, electrical engineering and material science & engineering. For the two programmes last year, the institute had received a total of 579 applications. This year, the five programmes received a total of 7,064 applications.

“We were surprised by the overwhelming response. Based on our experience of the admission processes of MTech programmes earlier, we did not expect such a large number of applications for the five programmes,” said IIT-Gn director Sudhir Jain.

With the rise in the number of candidates applying for its courses, the institute is now planning to adopt new systems that will handle such large numbers of data with ease. “The manual system of receiving applications becomes difficult for short listing them when the number becomes large. While we will manage it this year, we will have to adopt a new electronic system of receiving the applications from the candidates from next year. This will enable the compilation of the large number of data of the applicants and screening them,” said Jain.

The highest number of applications was received in electrical engineering and mechanical engineering with each programme receiving more than 2,000 applications.

Apart from its MTech programmes, IIT-Gn has also received an increased number of applications for its PhD programmes as well. “The number of applications for PhD programme in the institute has increased from 1,133 applications last year to 1,754 applications this year. Among the applications for PhD programmes, the number of candidates applying in the area of humanities and social sciences has increased from 34 last year to 87 this year,” said faculty and associate dean of academic affairs, Amit Prashant.