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Rs 10L pay for IIT-Gn 1st batch student

Public sector units, e-commerce firms, banks, Tata Consultancy, Finisar Malaysia, Ricoh Innovations, DRDO among the recruiters

By **Dhwani Pathak Dave**

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Placements of the pioneer batch of IIT-Gandhinagar is almost completed with the highest pay package offered so far being Rs 10.2 lakh. This batch joined the institute when it took off in a modest hall on Vishwakarma Engineering College campus in 2008.



Of 89 students, 59 registered for the placement process. Inset: Prathmesh Juvatkar

Of the 89 students, 59 registered for the placement process. Said placement executive Mansi Goel, "Of these 59 students, offers have been made to 54. This is quite encouraging for the first batch. Offers came from some unusual companies as well. The average pay package is Rs 6.5 lakh."

Prathmesh Juvatkar, a student of electrical engineering, has been offered the highest pay so far, of Rs 10.2 lakh, by Microsoft. Prathmesh had appeared only for this placement. He did not appear for other companies, Goel said.

The various companies that have recruited students include consulting firms such as Flipkart, fashionandyou, public sector units such as BPCL, Bank of India, core technical companies such as Tata Consultancy Engineers, Malaysia-based Finisar Malaysia, Ricoh Innovations, Hospira and Flytxt. Research companies such as Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) and Underwriters Laboratories also picked up students.

Unlike the other 'established' IITs, IIT-Gn just offers three streams — mechanical, chemical and electrical. "When firms would approach us, we would only have 12 to 15 students who would be opting for the placements. It took us a lot of time in convincing the companies that the number of the students may be less but the quality is on a par with any other institute's. Finally, we proved what we said," added Goel.

Sarthak Jain, a student of electrical engineering who has received an offer of Rs 8

lakh from a company but is contemplating at his choice of a start-up said, "Being a part of the first batch, we knew that this was an experiment. However, the onus of how we made the most of this lay on us. Through these four years at the institute, we have gained that confidence and focus."

Amit Purohit, assistant placement executive said, "There has been a one to one interaction with each student.

The focus was never on getting 100 per cent placements done or to achieve a two-digit salary figure, it was more on what the students wanted to do in their career. It took a lot of counselling sessions."

A lot of students also opted to take up higher studies, entrepreneurship or working with government offices.

Said Director Sudhir Jain, "When we started the institute there was a lot of apprehensions on how the programmes would go. The pioneer batch setting a benchmark gives us a lot of pride."

Dr Jain said that the institute tried to make the students realise their potential. "We did everything possible to make the students understand their worth. There were some risks taken but that was necessary. One cannot be counting every single penny spent."

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