

Publication: The Times Of India Ahmedabad;Date: Feb 9, 2013;Section: Times City;Page: 4;



IITians begin bid to find supermodel

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Ahmedabad: Twenty one students from Indian Institute of Technology, Gandhinagar (IIT-Gn) are participating in 'Mathematical Contest in Modelling' (MCM), a worldwide competition where teams of undergraduates use mathematical modelling to solve real life problems.

"This will enable our students to think out of the box for solutions to social issues," said professor Raj Srinivasan, the head of the department of mathematics and statistics at University of Saskatchewan in Canada, and currently visiting faculty for mathematics at IIT-Gn.

Organized by Consortium for Mathematics and Its Applications (COMAP), a US based non-profit organization, MCM is held in the first week of February annually. As a part of the competition, three problems are released at a specific time on a specific date, throughout the world.

The participants get a total of 4 days to choose a problems, work on it, do research, devise a mathematical description of the problem and finally compile the work into a report.

Around one thousand international teams of three undergraduates each take part in the competition



APPLYING MATHEMATICS SOLUTIONS

every year. Initially participation was primarily from the USA, but in recent years international participation has grown significantly.

The problems thrown to the competing students this year include The Ultimate Brownie Pan, where the students must design a brownie pan which is better and more effective than those already existing. Second is water, water, everywhere, in which student teams are required to come up with an innovative model to solve water woes.

Third is network modeling of earth's health where students are required to build a dynamic global network model of some aspect of Earth's health by identifying local elements of the condition and connecting them appropriately to track relationship and attribute effects.