

## **IIT-G dream comes true for more Gujaratis**

AHMEDABAD: The number of Patels and Shahs is growing in the [Indian Institute of Technology](#), Gandhinagar. IIT-G, in its new academic session, 2010-11, will have more Gujarati students. A total of 114 students have got admission in this academic year, of which 13 students are from Gujarat.

This is the best representation of Gujarati students in IIT-G since its inception in 2008 when the number was just four. The growth is inkeeping with the increase in number of Gujarati students appearing for IIT Joint Entrance Examination (IITJEE).

In 2008, 4,933 students from Gujarat had applied for IITJEE. This time the number of wannabe IITians of Gujarat jumped to 7,512.

Sudhir Jain, director of IIT-G, said, "This is a heart-warming trend. A total of 114 students have got admission into this year's batch. Of these, 13 are from Gujarat. We hope the figures continue to improve in the future."

Dhwanil Shukla, a student who cleared class XII from St Kabir School with 81 per cent and stays in Vastrapur ranked 3129 in IITJEE. "I have selected mechanical engineering as my career option. Getting admission into IIT-G is the best possible scenario for me. I get to stay at home and also study in an IIT. Since IIT-Mumbai is playing the mentor's role for IIT-G, this is an added advantage," said Shukla. IIT-G is unique in other ways too. Jain said, "This is the only institute that allows students to change academic disciplines after studying for a year. Last year, 14 students changed their disciplines and the number is likely to increase this year."

Nidhi Gandhi, a resident of Bopal, who had completed her class XII from Prakash School, secured 2075 rank in IITJEE. "I had secured admission into all the top five IITs. But, the course offered there was civil engineering. While I had my heart set on electrical engineering. This is available at IIT-G," said Gandhi. Arjita Sharma secured a berth in mechanical engineering at IIT-G. She chose IIT-G over IIT-Kharagpur and Guwahati. Sharma, daughter of a senior IPS officer of Gujarat with 3,107 rank in IITJEE, said, "This is a peaceful state and studying in a new IIT is going to be a unique experience. I am looking forward to it."

Source: The Times of India, 22 July 2011