



Local students' number goes up to 20 at IIT-Gandhinagar

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Ahmedabad : With the commencement of its second academic year with a batch of nearly 111 students, officials at the Indian Institute of Technology, Gandhinagar (IIT-G) claimed that the number of total students has almost doubled in a year.

The student strength has also increased by about 80 per cent. Officials added that the number of girl and Gujarati students has almost doubled with the new batch joining last year's pioneering class on Wednesday.

At least 15 girl students are in the new batch, while one more is yet to formally join. The number of local students has also gone up this year to almost 20.

"We are happy to note that the number of Gujarati students has increased this year. But at the same time, our greatest pride is that there is a national, cosmopolitan mix on the campus," said Professor Urjit A Yajnik, Dean of Academic Programs and Student Affairs, on the sidelines of an orientation programme for the new batch on Wednesday.

With their first day on the campus on Wednesday, authorities are not perturbed about incidents of ragging that normally plague other engineering colleges at this time of the year.

"The faculty has a good rapport with the students who have been with us from last year, so we don't find it necessary to worry about incidents of ragging," said Yajnik.

Dubbing 'ragging' as a college's way of familiarising newcomers with their seniors, he added that the senior batch had come up with unique ways to do it "in lieu of ragging".

General Secretary of the institute's students' body Naveen Deepak said they would distribute questionnaires through which they can identify each student's interests and hobbies.

"We will then help them join various cultural and extra-curricular on-campus clubs," said Deepak.