



# IIT-Gn grooms health researchers

## Organises workshop to equip 42 students from six institutes and other varsities with research skills

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As many as 42 students from six institutes and other Indian universities participated in a first-of-its-kind workshop 'Summer Institute of Global Health and Development' at Indian Institute of Technology, Gandhinagar (IIT-Gn).

The month-long workshop that culminated on Friday also saw par-

ticipation of nine expert faculty members from University of Saskatchewan, University of Ottawa and IIT-Gn.

The participating students learnt how to contribute to global health and development, pedagogy, methods of research in area of social science and health, said Tannishtha Samanta, coordinator of the workshop organised with partner Canadian University of Saskatchewan.

Director of IIT-Gn Sudhir Jain

said that the idea behind the event was to increase the institute's outreach and enhance its contribution to society. "We want to contribute towards the development of all the students, including those who are not studying with us. The idea was to reach out to more people, be it those in Canada or Kolkata or other parts of the country. We wanted to provide them an opportunity to sharpen their skills through such summer activities," he said.

The students from International Institute of Population Science, Tata Institute of Social Science, IIT-Hyderabad, Azim Premji University, Central University, Gandhinagar and BM Institute of Mental Health were among those who participated in the workshop.

The workshop, through pedagogy and research, offered a unique opportunity to engage, empower and prepare young researchers in their global pursuit

for a healthy, equitable and sustainable world for all. Through cutting edge research drawing from diverse social sciences and humanities disciplines and utilising interdisciplinary methodologies, the 'summer institute' explored how the scientific community at large could contribute to a sharper understanding of the complex interlinkages of health and development.

One of the nine professors from the University of Saskatchewan,

## for a healthy, sustainable world

Canada, Prof Raj Srinivasan said, "We really enjoyed taking part in the workshop. We will look towards continuing the collaboration and consider bringing a group of people from our university to IIT-Gn to pursue collaborative research."

At the end of the workshop, the students submitted project proposals in the area of public health. The proposals will be digitally published in an abstract booklet.

Samanta said, "Through talks, debates and hands-on sessions, we have shown the participants how to use appropriate intellectual tools to address, articulate and critique the contemporary global health challenges. The participants have taken home the understanding and knowledge to conduct their own research in a more productive manner. They can go back and work on their studies in an effective manner."