## 194 students join BTech 2018-2022 batch at IITGN



Palaj,

Indian Institute of Technology Gandhinagar (IITGN) welcomed 194 students in its BTech batch of 2018-22 with inauguration of the pioneering 5-week Foundation Program- 2018 today. This year, the batch comprises students from 18 states of the country, with the largest number of stucoming dents from Raiasthan (45) followed by Maharashtra and Gujarat, with 39 students from each state. Following a special drive to increase the number of female students in all IITs across the country and special efforts made by IITGN to encourage female students, the new batch at IITGN has an improved gender ratio with 15% female students.

Speaking to the stu-

of the Honey Bee Network and grassroot activist, and Padma Shri awardee Prof. Anil Kumar Gupta said, "India is becoming one of the largest consumers of knowledge, but we also need to be known as knowledge producers by sharing it. The society can not become happy and satisfied unless we engage with it."He underlined the power of long-term gains for society and humanity and urged students to innovate solutions for problems and unmet needs of the society. He emphasized to find inclusive and affordable solutions which do not damage our environment and eco-system. He encouraged the new joiners to pursue excellence.

IITGN Director Prof Sudhir Jain congratulated the new batch and briefly

said, "IITGN always gives highest priority to the students. We strive to shape them not only as skilled engineers but also good citizens who are connected with the society. IITGN tries to take new initiatives in education and the Foundation Program is one such initiative to expose students to learn different things they may not have done due to academic pressures. It gives them opportunity to explore their passions.

Earlier, Prof Pratik Mutha, Dean of Academic Affairs and Prof Jaison Manjaly, Dean of Student Affairs introduced the new batch and their parents to the student centric culture at ITGN and diverse experiences designed for students in the Foundation Program. ITGN alumni Kanchan Patel and

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