

NIT-T retains top spot among NITs

Plans To Improve Faculty-Student Ratio And Patent Registrations

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Trichy: While Indian Institute of Technology-Madras emerged the best engineering institution in the country; the NIT from Tamil Nadu in Trichy was on the top of the list among the 31 NITs. Good placement records and impressive median salary are the reasons for NIT-T to have bagged the 11th rank among engineering institutions.

While the institute managed to retain the top position among NITs for the second time in a row in the Union ministry for human resource and development-published national institutional ranking framework-2017 in the engineering category, it improved its position from 2016 moving up one position.

However, NIT-T saw stiff competition from NIT-Rourkela in Odisha where



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MINI SHAJI THOMAS
Director | NIT-Trichy

NIT-R stood just behind at NIT-T at the 12th position. The other NITs among the top 50 engineering institutions were: NIT-Surathkal (22), Warangal (34) and Calicut (44).

Started as a joint and cooperative venture between the state government of Tamil Nadu and Government of India in 1964, NIT-Trichy was known as Regional Engineering College till 2003. With more than five decades of history, the institute enjoys the privilege of being on the oldest NITs in the country. Interestingly,

all four NITs that are behind NIT-Trichy in the top 50 list are older institutions.

On one hand where the institution feel joyous about retaining the top spot, but at the same time, it also enjoys the challenge striving further to move up the ladder. “We were a little tensed under pressure to retain the top position”, said director NIT-T Mini Shaji Thomas. “Experience of the senior faculty members helped us. We still have many teachers who part of REC Trichy,” said she.

According to the NIRF

2017 NIT-T stood apart on key parameters like graduation outcome, inclusivity with better teaching-learning resource. “About 25 percent faculty at NIT-T are women. Almost 50 percent students enrolled at our institute are from other states. Moreover, we have reserved 15 percent seats for students outside the country”, Mini said.

NIT-T also has got more than 100 students from countries abroad through the Direct Admission of Students Abroad (DASA) scheme. “Good placements and impressive median salary though campus placements kept us ahead of other institutes,” said faculty of production engineering R Jeyapaul who was also the overall coordinator for NIRF at the NIT-T.

Public perception is another vital parameter where the institution scored 45 out of 100, said

Jeyapaul. “Programs at NIT-T are more sought-after than other NITs,” he added.

NIT-Rourkela, though behind NIT-T in the ranking has scored over it in teaching-learning resources for having a better student-teacher ratio. NIT-T lags behind in faculty recruitment and registration of intellectual property. Officials of the institute say that in the coming academic year, they will focus on faculty recruitment and match the UGC standard for faculty-student ratio of 1:15. At present there are 5,609 students with 324 teachers making it one teacher for 17 students.

“The institution will encourage patent filing and push for commercialising these patents in the upcoming years as we were only focusing on publishing our research work. Entrepreneurship is another area that we will give importance,” Mini said.