IISc-Bengaluru beats IIT-Bombay in QS rankings, fastest-rising in S Asia

4 Indian Institutions Among Top 50 In Research, But Lag In Internationalisation

Manash.Gohain
@timesgroup.com

New Delhi: Having gained 31 places in this year's QS World University Rakings, IISc-Bengaluru is now the fastest-rising South Asian university, inching closer to the global Top 150.

It has also held its position as the world's top research university, ahead of (in the descending order of rank in research) Harvard, Princeton University, California Institute of Technology, and Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

This year, three others — IITs in Guwahati (37th) and Roorkee (47th) and new entrant University of Madras (48th) — also made it to the elite list of global Top 50 research institutions.

With 12 of the 41 Indian universities improving their positions in the latest QS rankings, IISc (155) raced ahead of IIT-Bombay (172), which was last year's India leader at 177.

Indian institutions, however, continue to struggle in the QS's internationalisation metrics.

As many as 30 universities have suffered declines in the QS faculty/student ratio indicator. Top universities like Delhi University (from 501-510 to 521-530), University of Hyderabad (from 651-700 to 751-800), JNU (from 561-570 to 601-650), Jamia Millia Islamia (from 751-800 to 801-1000), IIT-Bhubaneswar (from 701-750 to 801-1000) and Jadavpur University (from 651-700 to 701-750) have seen a decline in their rankings.

The Quacquarelli Symonds (QS) on Thursday released the 19th edition of its university rankings. Globally, the Top 5 — MIT (11th consecutive year), Cambridge, Stanford, Oxford and Harvard — from last year remain unchanged barring swapping positions.

The India story is led by government-run institutions with the Institution of Eminence (IoE) tag, as five of the Top 10 are from this category. While IIT-Bombay has risen five places, IIT-Delhi (India's third) has climbed 11 places.

Moreover, University of Calcutta boasts the highest percentage of female students (63%). Amity University employs the highest percentage of female faculty (58%).
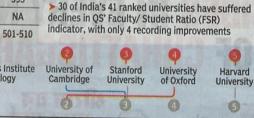
Indian universities stagnate in QS's academic repufation (AR) metric with 17 having experienced drops in ranks. In the QS's employer reputation metric, IIT-Bombay and IIT-Delhi are the only two national universities to feature in the world's Top 100 in this crucial metric, ranking 59th and 72nd respectively.

Founder of Quacquarelli Symonds, Nunzio Quacquarelli, in an exclusive interaction, told TOI Indian institutions can make rapid progress if they focus on "international outreach with the higher education system globally".

"NEP 2020 calls for a more proactive internationalisation of education. The international student and faculty ratios of Indian universities is amongst the lowest of any major OECD country. And then even employer reputation, although India has a very good employment outcome, employer relations are very domestic oriented. They haven't really developed the course or digital capability to appeal to international employers

. The drive for internationalisation is something that will change things quite quickly. Because India has such a strong foundation in research and talent, I think all of these things can be improved relatively quickly now," he said.

Quacquarelli added that barring the IITs, India's government-run universities are traditionally domestic-focused and "need to make a greater effort in outreach and building reputation".

IISc BENGALURU SCORES PERFECT 100

QS World University Rankings 2023

India top 10	2023	2022
IISc Bengaluru	155 ⬆	186
IIT Bombay	172 ⬆	177
IIT Delhi	174 ⬆	185
IIT Madras	250 ⬆	255
IIT Kanpur	264 ⬆	277
IIT Kharagpur	270 ⬆	280
IIT Roorkee	369 ⬆	400
IIT Guwahati	384 ⬆	395
IIT Indore	396	NA
University of Delhi	521-530 ⬇	501-510

GLOBAL TOP 5

	2023 Rank		2022 Rank
1	Massachusetts Institute of Technology		1
2	University of Cambridge		2
3	Stanford University		3
4	University of Oxford		4
5	Harvard University		5

HIGHLIGHTS

QS's Employer Reputation (AR) metric | IIT-Bombay & IIT-Delhi are the only two national universities to feature among the world's top-100 in this crucial metric, ranking 59th and 72nd respectively

➤ 13 Indian universities have improved their research impact relative to global competitors

➤ IISc Bengaluru is the world's top research university, achieving a perfect score of 100/100 for this metric

➤ IIT-Guwahati (37th), IIT Roorkee (47th) & the new entry University of Madras (48th) are also global top-50 research institutions

➤ 30 of India's 41 ranked universities have suffered declines in QS' Faculty/ Student Ratio (FSR) indicator, with only 4 recording improvements