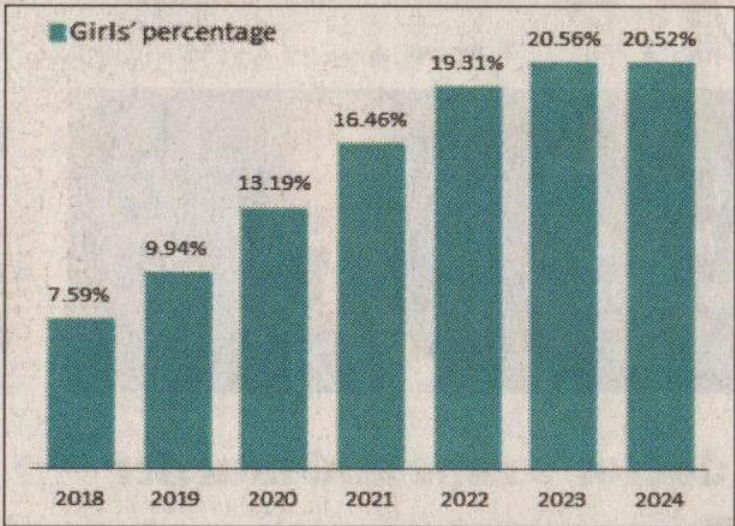


# Girls' representation at IIT-I grows from 7.59% to 20.52% in 6 yrs

**Our Staff Reporter**  
INDORE

Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Indore has witnessed a significant rise in enrollment of female students over the last six years, reflecting the impact of concerted efforts to improve gender equality in engineering education. Percentage of female students pursuing the institute's flagship BTech programmes has grown from a mere 7.59% in 2018 to an impressive 20.52% in the 2024-

25 academic session. Back in the 2018-19 academic year, only 56 out of 738 students at IIT-Indore were girls, making up just 7.59% of the student lot. However, the figure has steadily increased each year, reaching 9.94% in 2019-20, 13.19% in 2020-21, 16.46% in 2021-22, 19.31% in 2022-23 and 20.56% in 2023-24. For 2024-25 session, the percentage stands at 20.52%, with the new batch showing an impressive 22.37% female enrollment.



This growth aligns with broader national trends aimed at addressing the gender gap in STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) fields, particularly in male-dominated engineering sector. Historically, female representation at IITs has been low, with women making up only a small fraction of the student population. However, recent years have seen a concerted effort by the Central government to improve these numbers.

A pivotal moment came in 2018 when the government introduced supernumerary seats—additional seats above the sanctioned limit—exclusively for female students. Initially, 800 such seats were added across 23 IITs, with the number rising to 946 in 2019. By 2021, the Joint Admission Board (JAB) allowed IITs to set female enrollment targets at 20% of total admissions. Many institutes not only met this target but exceeded it. The success of these initiatives

is evident not only in numbers but also in the changing culture at IITs, where efforts have been made to create a more inclusive environment. 'The case of IIT-Indore serves as a powerful example of how sustained efforts and policy interventions can lead to meaningful change, paving the way for greater gender equality in India's premier engineering institutions,' IIT Indore's media coordinator Sunil Kumar said.