# Indian universities out of top 300 in global rankings

## But Number Of Entries Rise From 49 To 56

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**New Delhi:** The new world university rankings came as a mixed bag for India, with no university featured in the top 300 for the first time since 2012. The total number of entries from the country, however, went up from 49 in 2018 to 56 this year.

The high point for India was Indian Institute of Technology, Ropar making it to the top 350 on its debut in the list. It now is the joint Indian topper with Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore. In total, there are six Indian universities in the top 500 in this year's Times Higher Education (THE) World University Rankings 2020 as against five in the 2019 rankings. Overall, University of Oxford continues to lead the pack for the fourth consecutive year.

With the increase in number of Indian universities in the overall 1,300-university list from 92 countries, India is the fifth most-represented nation in the rankings, with 56 institutions. 10 Indian universities which participated for the first time made it to the global ranking list of 1,300 universities. The fall of IISc from the 251-300 to 301-350 cohort this year is attributed to a significant dip in its citation impact score offsetting improvements in re-

search environment, teaching environment and industry income. With IISc's slide, it is for the first time India has failed to make the top 300 in the last seven years. However, the Bengaluru-based institute still ranks highest among all others in India and shares its position with IIT-Ropar in the THE list.

THE rankings editor Ellie Bothwell said: "India has a huge amount of potential in global higher education, given its rapidly growing youth population and economy and use of English-language instruction. However, it is disappointing to see the country fall out of the top 300 of the rankings this year, with only a small number of institutions registering progress. The Indian government has strong ambitions to boost the global standing of its top universities and attract foreign students, academics and re-

search collaboration. It now needs to back up these aspirations with high levels of investment or risk declining further amid increasing global competition, especially from other parts of Asia."

According to THE, the best Indian institutions are generally characterised by relatively strong scores for teaching environment and industry income, but perform poorly when it comes to international outlook in comparison to both regional and international counterparts.

Apart from IISc, six other Indian universities fall into a lower band this year, though the bulk of the nation's institutions more or less remained stable. There were a few who have risen, including IIT-Delhi and IIT-Kharagpur and Jamia Millia Islamia. Globally, the US once again has 60 universities in the top 200, 10 of which come from the state of California alone. US institutions saw a slight drop in their average ranking overall. Besides Oxford which topped for the fourth year running, the California Institute of Technology rose three places to second, Cambridge dropped one place to third and Stanford and Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) joined them at the top of the list to round off the top five.

Mainland China now hosts the top two universities in Asia with Tsinghua, the leader from continent at 23rd place and Peking at 24th overtaking the National University of Singapore.
*Full report on www.toi.in*

### IIT-ROPAR MAKES STRONG DEBUT

| India universities in top 500* | | |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **University** | **2020** | **2019** |
| Indian Institute of Science | 301-350 | 251-300 |
| IIT, Ropar | 301-350 | NR |
| IIT, Indore | 351-400 | 351-400 |
| IIT, Bombay | 401-500 | 401-500 |
| IIT, Delhi | 401-500 | 501-600 |
| IIT, Kharagpur | 401-500 | 501-600 |
| **Global best** | **2020** | **2019** |
| University of Oxford (UK) | 1 | 1 |
| California Institute of Technology (US) | 2 | 5 |
| University of Cambridge (UK) | 3 | 2 |
| Stanford University (US) | 4 | 3 |
| Massachusetts Institute of Technology (US) | 5 | 4 |

#### HIGHLIGHTS

➤ No Indian institutions in the top 300

➤ Indian Institute of Science declines, marking first time that it is not in top 300 since 2012

➤ IIT-Ropar made it to top 350 in its debut participation

➤ In 2019, there were 5 Indian universities in top 500

➤ In 2020, there are 6 Indian universities in top 500

➤ Overall, 56 Indian universities feature in the table, up from 49 last year in a list of 1,300 universities

➤ India fifth most-represented nation in the rankings

➤ China is home to top two universities in Asia for first time

➤ University of Oxford comes top for the fourth year in a row; California Institute of Technology (Caltech) placed second

Individual ranks are allotted till rank 200; * Post 200th rank, institutions are placed in a cohort of 50 ranks