

IIT Indore 8th convocation held in online mode

Our student count more than US population, says Pokhriyal



OUR STAFF REPORTER
Indore

Stating that Indian education sector is once again flourishing, Union education minister Ramesh Pokhriyal 'Nishank' on Monday claimed the student count in India is more than the entire population of America.

"The biggest democracy of the world has more than 1000 universities, close to 45,000 colleges, over 15 lakh schools and more than 1.09 crore teachers. The student

412 STUDENTS AWARDED DEGREES

As many as 412 students got degrees in various streams and courses in online mode. Out of the graduating students, 233 are BTech, 58 are MSc, 57 are MTech, 6 are MS (Research), and 58 are PhD. The BTech students included the first batch of 34 & 31 BTech students graduating in Civil Engineering, and Metallurgy Engineering and Materials Science respectively.

The President of India Gold Medal for the best academic performance among all the graduating UG students was conferred on Saptarshi

Ghosh from Computer Science and Engineering in absentia. Arushi Jain of Computer Science and Engineering, Khushboo Ahuja of Electrical Engineering, Agam Gupta of Mechanical Engineering, Shalay Gupta of Civil Engineering and Ashutosh Gupta of Metallurgy Engineering and Materials Science were recipients of the institute silver medals for the best academic performance among all the graduating UG students of a particular discipline.

Manish Badole of MTech and An-

chal Saxena of MSc program received the institute silver medals for the best academic performance among all the graduating PG students of a particular discipline. Srija Tewari received the 'Buti Foundation Gold Medal' for the best female student securing the highest CPI among all the graduating students of all the two years masters' programs. Chaitanya Mehta received the award for the best BTech Project for 'Design and Development of a Tree Climbing Quadruped Robot'.

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population in India is more than the entire population of America which stands at around 33 crore," he said in a live video address of 8th convocation of Indian Institute of Technology Indore on Sunday.

He was chief guest of the convocation which was held in online mode following Covid-19 crisis.

The minister stated that the Indian education system creates responsible value-based human force and not machines.

He, however, also stated that India lacks behind in

AI to be taught at schools

Pokhriyal said that artificial intelligence will be taught at school level. "We will be perhaps the first country to do this in the world," he said. He also stated that they are bringing 360 degree evaluation system.

"Not only teachers but parents and students themselves will do their evaluation," he said. He stated that the system of given report card to students will be replaced by system of progress card.

"Study in India & Stay in India"

The minister stated that students from many countries are coming to India. We are pushing for "Study in India" initiative. However, we are also laying focus on "Stay in India" initiative. "Many talented students of India are going abroad for work. We are going to create opportunities for them to work in India," he said. He stated that the government would not only identify and develop the talent but help the talent to excel also.

research and innovation because of which do not feature in the top-100 list of world class universities.

"We are setting up National Research Foundation (NRF) with an aim to catalyse and energise research and innovation. We will work hard on these two parameters and catch up with other leading uni-

versities in the world," he said.

He also stated that the New Education Policy (NEP) is going to raise the standards of Indian universities and colleges.

Pokhriyal claimed that many countries have lauded the NEP of India and expressed desire to adopt it.

He hailed the work being

Don't be dispersed if Covid-19 hit career: Phatak

Addressing students, IIT Indore chairman Deepak B Phatak stated that Covid-19 affected all businesses in the country. "May be, you too have been affected by it. Some students with job letters in hand may face situation of delay in joining dates. Some others thinking of doing higher studies or doing research may find being deprived of the opportunities," he said. Phatak suggested students not to be disturbed by such situation as they are temporary. Don't be disturbed as the time will change soon, he added.

Applied for patents on 61 projects

IIT Indore officiating director Neelesh Kumar Jain put forth annual progress report during the convocation and shared plans for future. He stated that the institute had secured patent on one of its innovate project and applied for patent on 61 other projects. He also brought to the knowledge of the minister four pending projects with education ministry and sought approval. In his message to graduating students, he said that it's time for them to pay-back. "Be job creators and not job seekers," he added.

done by students and faculty of IITs in the fight against Covid-19 pandemic. IIT Indore faculties and students also prepared 3-D reusable masks, and various kits. "I also learnt that close to 25 researches were

done at IIT Indore on Covid-19," he said.

Highlighting other major achievements by IIT Indore, Pokhriyal said that the new generation IIT has taken a major leap in short span of time.