IIT convocation: Pandal setters to come from outside MP

No place for politicians, officers in ceremony

OUR STAFF REPORTER
Indore

An event management company from outside the state has been awarded contract to setup pandal for the first convocation ceremony of Indian Institute of Technology Indore.

This because the institute could not find any agency in the state good enough for the work.

The podium had become an issue when IIT Indore wished to hold convocation ceremony at Simrol where its campus is to come up.

Since the proposed venue is an open place, the Rashtrapati Bhavan expressed security concern in wake of an incident of an event's open stage collapsing in Odisha.

The Rashtrapati Bhavan's clearance to the venue was necessary as President Pranab Mukherjee is coming to attend the convocation ceremony.

The institute authorities somehow convinced the Rashtrapati Bhavan that the podium of its convocation ceremony would be a stronger one.

After that the search for an event management company with a good reputation began which ended up outside the state, insiders in the institute said.

Meanwhile, IIT Indore has decided not to invite politicians and officers of the state in the convocation ceremony.

Several politicians and senior officers had wished to attend the convocation as chief guest of it is President Pranab Mukherjee.

But the institute reportedly told them that it could not honour their wishes as convocation was solely a function of students.

"We have invited limited number of people for the convocation for obvious security reasons. So we have to politely turn down requests of some politicians and senior officers wishing to attend the ceremony," an officer said wishing anonymity.

According to information, about 1,000 chairs would be placed at the venue. The invitees include students, their parents, college staff and their family members, select industrialists and senior academicians from across the country.

All of them would be issued passes. Entry to the venue is only on production of the passes.