

IIT-Indore to start shifting its campus from IET in June

It has permission to continue to operate from IET building till 2015 end but the IIT Indore has decided to leave early. Read why?

● **OUR STAFF REPORTER**
Indore

With the setting up of a temporary structure at its land in Simrol, the Indian Institute of Technology Indore has decided to shift its campus, in a phase-wise, from the building of Institute of Engineering Technology (IET).

The IIT-Indore has written to IET Director Sanjeev Tokekar that it would vacate 2000 square meter of space in the IET building by June end.

"The IIT-Indore has two blocks M and E of the IET in its possession. It will vacate E block in June," said Tokekar.

The IIT-Indore has permission to operate from the IET campus till December 2015 but it's believed to be packing early as pressure to con-

struct and shift to its own campus is mounting on it from the Ministry of Human Resources and Development that had set deadline of June-2013 for the same to this IIT and other new IITs.

Sources said that the IIT Indore had setup a temporary structure at Simrol and it would shift some administrative staff there to show to the MHRD that it has started process of shifting to its own campus.

At present, the IIT Indore provisionally functions from three campuses – IET, PACL and Silver Spring.

While academic activities of IIT Indore are run from IET and PACL campuses, its residential quarters are located on Silver Spring campus.

The IIT Indore which was established in 2009 had started its operation from the

● IIT Indore to vacate 2000 sqm space in IET building by June end. In a year, the institute would leave possession of all the area it has in IET building. ● Some staff will be shifted to a temporary structure on its land in Simrol, rest to be sent to PACL campus.



IET campus of the Devi Ahilya Vishwavidyalaya (DAVV).

As per the initial MoU with the DAVV, the IIT In-

dore had to vacate the IET campus by December 2012.

At that time, it was planned that the IIT would complete construction of its

campus on 500-acre of land allocated to it at Simrol by December 2012 and subsequently move there. But nothing went to the plan.

In a setback to the IIT Indore, the Ministry of Environment and Forests (MoEF) in 2010 denied permission of diversion of 80 hectares forestland which was a part of the 500 acres of land meant for the institute.

The development had hit the construction plan of the IIT and forced it to request the DAVV to let it continue its operation from the IET building till 2015.

The request initially was rejected but with Central and State government pitching for the IIT, the DAVV agreed to the demand.

But with the hike in the number of students and faculty members, the IIT realised that the IET building alone would not be able to fulfill its increasing space requirements and it rented another campus in Pithampur – PACL campus. Residential quarters in Silver Spring were rented in the institute's establishment year

itself. Before things get more complicated to the IIT, the MoEF approved its plea of diversion of forestland falling on the site meant for the institute campus.

The IIT Indore is now having possession of the entire 500 acres for the last two years but it could not complete construction of its campus.

Just a temporary block has been setup wherein it is planning to move some administrative staff.

Basic science setup to be shifted to PACL

Sources in the IIT Indore said that the institute would shift its setup of basic science stream from IET building and shift it to PACL campus.

The basic science infrastructure is located in E block of IET building, and administrative machinery is located in M block. Some employees of M block would be shifted to the temporary structure at Simrol site. In a year time, the M block would also be vacated and entire administrative staff be shifted to Simrol.