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7 IITs in top 10 of govt's Atal rankings for innovation, IIT Madras is No.1

Releasing the list, MoS Education Dr Subhas Sarkar said rankings will inspire institutions to 'reorient their mindset', promote innovation to achieve $5 trillion economy by 2025.

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New Delhi: Seven Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs) have made it to the top 10 of the Atal Ranking of Institutions on Innovation Achievements (ARIIA), released by the Ministry of Education Wednesday.

IIT Madras, IIT Bombay and IIT Delhi topped the rankings for technical central universities, for their innovative approach. The IITs in Kanpur, Roorkee, Hyderabad and Kharagpur also feature in the top 10.

Other institutions on the list are Bengaluru's Indian Institute of Science (IISc), Prayagraj's Motilal Nehru National Institute of Technology, and the National Institute of Technology in Kozhikode (formerly Calicut).

The list was released by Minister of State for Education Dr Subhas Sarkar Wednesday. At the event, Sarkar said the ARIIA rankings will "inspire Indian institutions to reorient their mindset and build

ecosystems to encourage high quality research, innovation and entrepreneurship in their campuses".

Stressing on promoting innovation to achieve a "$5 trillion economy by 2025", Sarkar said that more than quantity, the institute should focus on quality of innovations and research.

What is ARIIA?

ARIIA is an annual ranking released by the education ministry to recognise the contribution of institutions in research and innovation. It systematically ranks all major higher education institutions and universities in India on indicators related to the promotion and support of "innovation and entrepreneurship development" among students and faculty.

The first edition of ARIIA was released in 2019, when a total of 496 institutes competed to get a ranking. This year, 1,438 institutions (including all IITs, NITs, IISc, etc.) participated.

The parameters on which institutes were judged include academic courses offered on innovation and start-up, successful innovation and start-ups that emerged from campus, investment, collaboration and partnerships with ecosystem enablers, research outputs and technology transfer and commercialisation efforts.

The ranking is divided into two categories — technical and non-technical institutions. There are five sub-categories under the 'technical' category — central universities, state universities, private universities, government aided institutions, and deemed private universities. Under 'non-technical' institutions, the categories are 'central government' and 'general'.

Other winners

While the IITs scored the most wins in the 'central university' category, among state universities, Panjab University and Delhi Technical University emerged on top. Under the 'private universities' category, GH Raisoni College of Engineering, Maharashtra, and R.M.K. Engineering College, Tamil Nadu, led the list.

As for government-aided institutions, the College of Engineering, Pune (Maharashtra), and PSG College of Technology (Tamil Nadu) were at the top. In the 'private deemed universities category', Kalinga Institute of Industrial Technology, Odisha, Chitkara University, Punjab, and Lovely Professional University, Punjab, topped the list.

Under 'non-technical institutions', the top central universities were Indira Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU), Delhi, and the Indian Institute of Management (IIM), Kozhikode.

In the 'general' category, the Entrepreneurship Development Institute of India, Gujarat, and Sree Narayana College, Kerala, emerged at the top of the ARIIA rankings.