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Government of India
Ministry of Education
Department of Higher Education
Technical Section-1

Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi

Dated: 5th January, 2026

Subject: Minutes of the 56th Meeting of Council of IITs-reg.

The Minutes of the 56th Meeting of the Council of IITs held under the Chairpersonship of Hon'ble Minister of Education, on 25th August, 2025 (Monday) at IIT Delhi are forwarded herewith for information and necessary action.



(Nilesch Chandra Srivastava)
Under Secretary (IITs)
For Secretary, Council of IITs

Enclosure: As above

To,

Members of council of IITs

Copy to

- i) PS to Hon'ble Minister of Education
- ii) PSO to Secretary (HE)
- iii) PS to JS (TE)
- iv) PS to JS & FA
- v) PS to Director (IITs)

Minutes of the 56th Meeting of the Council of IITs

The 56th Meeting of the Council of the Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs) under the Chairpersonship of Shri Dharmendra Pradhan, Hon'ble Minister of Education was held on 25th August, 2025 at, IIT Delhi. The list of participants is at **Annexure-I**.

At the outset, Secretary, Department of Higher Education, Shri Vineet Joshi welcomed Hon'ble Minister of Education and Hon'ble Members of Parliament Shri Ravindra Narayan Behera, Shri Tanuj Punia and all other Members to the IIT Council.

Ms. Saumya Gupta, Joint Secretary (TE), Secretary Council of IITs presented the agenda for discussions.

Item No. 56.1: To confirm the Minutes of the 55th Meeting of the Council of the IITs held on 18.04.2023.

The Minutes of the 55th Meeting of the Council of IITs held on 18.04.2023 were confirmed, as circulated.

Item No. 56.2: To report changes in the Membership of the Council.

The Council welcomed all the new members and placed on record the contributions made by the outgoing members.

Item No. 56.3: Ratification of appointment of Directors of IITs.

The Council ratified the appointment of the Directors.

Item No. 56.4: To report /ratify the decisions taken by the Chairperson, IIT Council on behalf of the Council.

The Council, after due deliberation, ratified the decisions taken by the Chairperson, IIT Council in respect of the following:



- i. Council Nominees on the Board of Governors of the IIT Roorkee and IIT Goa.
- ii. Stop-Gap arrangement of Directors of IIT Kanpur, IIT Jodhpur, IIT BHU (Varanasi), IIT Dhanbad, IIT Guwahati, IIT Bombay, IIT Kharagpur, and IIT Hyderabad.

Item No. 56.5: To Report Action Taken on the Minutes of the 55th Meeting of the Council of IITs held on 18.04.2023.

The Council noted the status of Action Taken Report (ATR) on decisions taken by the Council in its 55th Meeting held on 18.04.2023. Following observations were made on the Action Taken Report:

56.5.1 [55.2 (54.7)]: Reforms in the M. Tech Programs:

Director, IIT Hyderabad presented the recommendations of the Committee on M.Tech reforms, outlining the current status of M.Tech programmes in India, the evolving needs of modern industry, the proposed reforms, and the way forward.

The matter was discussed in detail and it was felt that one of the major reasons as to why B.Tech graduates are not inclined to pursue M.Tech in India is the limited availability of specializations. Another reason is the lack of internship opportunities. The Council emphasized the need to make industry internships a compulsory component of the M.Tech programmes.

The Council also discussed the benefits of creating a dual-track M.Tech program, with one stream dedicated to industry engagement and the other to research, to better align academic pathways with both national research objectives and private sector demands and to consider multi-disciplinary M.Tech programs and blended mode M.Tech programs, in



greater measure and product based M.Tech programs without the need for publishing papers.

Recommendations:

1. All IITs to revamp/redesign M.Tech curriculum, in line with their specific needs and vision.
2. 4-5 broad discipline-based industry dominated committees may be constituted by the Standing Committee of IIT Council (SCIC), and brief Chairman and Council on the progress.

(Action: SCIC, IIT Hyderabad and all IITs)

Timeline: 12 months

56.5.2 [55.2 (54.8)]: Implementation of National Education Policy, 2020:

During the 54th Council meeting, five working groups were formed and during the 55th meeting these reports were presented and the following observations were noted:

Two reports, namely “Evolve a structural system for training and mentorship of new faculty at IITs” and “Innovative funding mechanisms”, were accepted and implemented.

The remaining three reports were presented during this meeting and the details are as below:

- i. Two reports - “Governance Reforms in terms of Autonomy, Empowerment and Accountability in the IIT system” and “Reforming and restructuring of the Academic Senate” - were not accepted as they involve policy decisions and require changes in statutes and Act.

- ii. The fifth report, "Grooming distinguished academics for Directorship of IITs" was presented in the meeting. The draft program structure and the broad criteria for selection to the programme was also presented. IIT Council welcomed the initiative, and the members expressed their willingness to contribute. Accordingly, the report has been accepted and IIT Bombay has been designated to lead the programme and set up a team to implement the same. It was suggested that support from IIMs may also be sought for the programme.

Recommendations:

Based on the discussion held, it was recommended that a leadership Training Programme may be initiated with a target to train about 300-350 most promising faculty of IITs, designing a 2 year program with three modules of a week each per year. IITs to nominate only high performing faculty with strong academic and research credentials. Each cohort may be trained and mentored for two years. The broad criterion for selection to the program to emphasize a combination of strong academic and research credentials, a deep commitment to student development through a student-centric approach, and a strategic mindset that values collaboration. Training program would cover behavioural competencies, functional competencies and selected domain competencies.

(Action: IIT Bombay and IIT Kharagpur, with input from Capacity Building Commission)

Timeline: 3 Months

56.5.3 [55.2 (54.16): Suggestions by IIT Council members: Proposal for organizing R&D fair of IITs by the Ministry:



The Council was informed that IInvenTiv 2026 to be held on in 2026 will include thirteen thematic areas wherein each theme will be led by an IIT and IISc, IIT ISM Dhanbad will coordinate the event.

Members appreciated the R&D fair initiative of the IITs. It was suggested that the venue for the fair may be reconsidered, as Dhanbad is slightly difficult to reach. The members also suggested that careful outreach for the event may be done to ensure wide participation without diluting the impact of the event. It was further suggested that the requirements and expectations of industry be taken into consideration. Some metrics on tangible measures and outcomes should be agreed upon. Generally, it might be better to focus on 5 sectors rather than a very large group of sectors. Secretary (HE) emphasized the need for coordination between Bharat Innovates and the IInvenTive platform.

56.5.4 (55.6): Accreditation of IITs.

Director, IIT Gandhinagar presented the recommendations of the High-Level Committee on strengthening the assessment and accreditation systems of higher education institutions chaired by Dr K Radhakrishnan. The IIT Council welcomed the reforms which are being undertaken by the government to ensure that multiple accreditations are merged into a single accreditation body. One Nation, One Data will ensure that there is a single source of data for variety of government purposes, including ranking, accreditation, etc. The accreditation reforms talk of multiple categories of institutions which will be accredited on a separate set of parameters that are unique to their level of achievement and purpose for which they were constituted. Since the IITs have been consistently ranked and recognized as the best institutes in the country across verticals such as overall university, engineering, business management, architecture, architecture, innovation, and research, it has been decided that a small subcommittee of directors



may be constituted by JEE Advance Board (JAB) to assist and support the accreditation body so as to formulate suitable experts and criteria for accreditation of top-notch institutions like IITs, IISc Bangalore, and similar INIs.

Recommendations:

1. Given the diverse nature of the HEIs, the accreditation process must be suitably designed so as to offer commensurate guidance and challenge to the respective Institute
2. Accreditation and peer review are two independent aspects and both are critical for the institutes.
3. A sub-committee to be formed by JAB to support/assist the accreditation bodies of the government.

(Action to be taken by: IIT Delhi, All IITs/JAB)

Timeline: 1 year

56.5.5 (55.7): Research support to faculty and departments to motivate individual faculty and create an environment for collaboration in Departments

In most countries, research grants include a share for overheads or indirect costs - funds used to cover electricity, maintenance, administrative staff, and other shared facilities that support research. However, in India, there is hardly any overhead permitted in research. IITs seek extra mural funding from various government departments like DST, ANRF, DBT, space and technology, etc. Due to lack of overheads, the entire expenditure on upkeep of equipment, electricity charges, building civil infrastructure, consumables and materials, staff, repair and upkeep, maintenance and operational staff, etc. has to be borne by the institutions, which is expanding with time and putting a lot of pressure on the institutions.

Further, to attract the best talent in IITs for faculty positions, it is seen that some PhDs pursue doctoral research and enter academic teaching roles, while others opt to join industry. Academic experience is traditionally assessed through research publications, teaching contributions, and scholarly engagement, whereas industrial experience reflects practical innovation, project leadership, and real-world problem-solving. Some mechanism maybe established to ensure that both pathways are recognized equitably during faculty recruitment, particularly in institutions like the IITs.

Recommendations:

1. IIT Kanpur and IIT Delhi to bolster the secretariat of this Council with research experts, to develop parameters to evaluate the success of research and innovation efforts of various IITs and to develop an MIS for the same.
2. Based on this MIS, IIT Kanpur and the Ministry may develop parameters for funding of Grant-in-Aid to support those institutes wherein higher research and innovation outcomes are being achieved.
3. The IIT Council website to be upgraded, updated and enhanced to effectively showcase the best practices in research and innovation across IITs, ensuring that these practices are thoroughly compiled and systematically integrated.
4. Secretary, DST is requested to take up increase in the overhead budget at an appropriate level, starting with ANRF.
5. Candidates who have exhibited leadership in development / helming of innovative practices in the industry are not expected to fulfil the conventional journal publication requirement. Strong research orientation and communication skills are essential to leverage talent with industry experience. Suitable fitment in terms of seniority, pay package (including joining bonus) and age-appropriate perks may be worked out to make the offers attractive. Such appointments would lead to industry-academia



collaborations and developing technology which is licensed / commercialized for national benefit. A sub-committee may be formed by MoE to deliberate upon and propose the means to attract select and favourably integrate talent from the industry into CFTIs and make a presentation to Chairman, IIT Council within 3 months from its constitution.

(Action to be taken: Department of Higher Education, IIT Kanpur and IIT Delhi)

Timeline: 3 Months

56.5.6 (55.8): Non-speculative holding of equity by IITs in ventures aligned with the national mission:

IIT Bombay to prepare a white paper after due examination of Indian and international best practices, regulatory framework of taxation and IP laws, risk management for the institute, existing practices being followed in IITs and outcomes thereof, etc.

(Action to be taken: IIT Bombay)

Timeline: 6 Months

56.5.7 (55.9): Outreach activities of IITs for inclusive growth of other technical Institutions and sharing the benefit of research to society:

It was noted that the matter has been incorporated into the fresh agenda for the meeting and may accordingly be treated as closed.

56.5.8 (55.10): Vision of IITs for the next 25 years:

The Council deliberated on the need for a visioning exercise for the IIT system in light of evolving national aspirations. The Director, IIT Delhi presented a draft Terms of Reference (TOR) for the initiative titled "IITs 2047."

During the discussion, members emphasized that the vision should be broad and ambitious, aligning with the goals of a *Viksit* and *Atmanirbhar Bharat* by 2047. They recommended that the plan should incorporate regional development, encourage each IIT to take leadership in a specific key technology area, and it must factor in the emerging employment trends.

Recommendation:

After discussion, it was decided that a Vision Committee be constituted by MoE for proposing the vision "IIT 2047". It was also suggested to include young faculty and industry visionaries in the Committee. Further, it was decided that the Committee will submit report **in 6 months'** time, after its constitution.

(Action to be taken by: MoE & IIT Delhi)

Timeline: 6 Months

56.5.9 (55.11): Reservation policy - existing policy and the challenges in implementing the CEI Reservation in faculty recruitment in IITs and measures to overcome the challenge:

Director, IIT Madras presented the best practices for implementation of reservation policy in the faculty selection and student admissions in IITs.

Recommendation:

The matter was discussed, and it was decided that the Board of Governors (BoG) of individual IITs may include this as an agenda item. They should deliberate on efforts needed to enhance faculty recruitment and student admissions from marginalized communities.

(Action to be taken by: All IITs)



56.5.10 (55.12): Prime Minister Research Fellowship (PMRF)

The agenda has been complied with.

56.5.11 (55.13): Need for Common Admission test for all CFTIs.

The matter is part of the fresh agenda for the 56th meeting. No action pending.

56.5.12 (55.14): Mental Health and wellness:

Director, IIT Madras presented the best practices on Mental Health and wellness across IITs.

Recommendation:

In order to create a sustainable and long-term solution within IITs, which have student population ranging from 3,000 to 18,000, along with faculty, families, and a broader community, a proper structure of posts and a cadre for ensuring mental health must be created. Posts ranging from counsellors to psychologists and psychiatrists need to be created within the IITs. The filling up of these posts can be done either on a regular or contractual basis or by deploying a firm. However, unless sanctioned posts are created, even contractual appointments are not possible, as funding for the same will depend on the number of posts. In light of this, IIT Gandhinagar may refer to the Rehabilitation Council of India (RCI) guidelines and define a proper structure of mental health professionals. This should include adequate promotional avenues and provisions for quality assessment from time to time, so that a sustainable and reliable structure can be built.

(Action to be taken: IIT Gandhinagar)

Timeline: 6 Months

56.5.13 (55.15): Supporting the international students for internship program at IITs and issues of foreign faculties in IITs.

Director, IIT Gandhinagar presented the proposal for supporting the international students for internship program at IITs as well as issues on engagement of foreign faculties in IITs.

Recommendation:

The council discussed the need for IITs to engage the international students in their programs to promote cross cultural and academic exchanges between the IIT students and international students. In this regard, IITs may continue such engagements and allow students for one/two semesters under joint collaboration with foreign universities and provide necessary fellowships.

The Council also discussed the need to make the process of engaging foreign faculties in IITs easier to attract the best talent from the world to teach the IIT students. In this regard, the Council Chairman directed the IITs to make necessary changes in their recruitment rules, if required. Further, specific proposal may be submitted to MoE by IIT Gandhinagar consolidating the issues from all IITs, for taking up with the relevant departments of Government of India.

(Action to be taken: All IITs and IIT Gandhinagar)

56.5.14 (55.17): Enhancement of MCM scholarship & pocket allowance for SC/ST.

It was informed that Merit-Cum-Means (MCM) Scholarship has never been approved as a separate scheme at the level of the ministry. However, IITs may take this up from their own IRG, after taking decision in JAB meeting so as to ensure uniformity between IITs. The decision in this regard may be briefed to the IIT Council subsequently.

(Action: All IITs)

56.5.15 (55.19): To simplify the process of Visitor's Nominee:

The agenda has been complied with.

56.5.16 (55.20): To start 4 year B.Ed Programme in IITs - 4 Year Integrated Teacher Education Programme (ITEP).

The Director, IIT Jodhpur informed that four IITs are implementing the 4-year Integrated Teacher Education Program (BSc-BEd) as part of a group of 64 academic institutions nationwide. Major challenges in running the ITEP were highlighted, along with a request for support from the Ministry of Education (MoE). Progress has been apprised to the council. The agenda is complied with.

Recommendations:

IIT Jodhpur to be the nodal institution to work in close coordination with the Department of School Education and Literacy and Secretary, National Council for Teacher Education (NCTE), to resolve issues faced by IITs in this regard and for scaling of the program across IITs.

(Action to be taken: IIT Jodhpur, Secretary, NCTE)

Timeline: 3 Months

56.5.17 (55.21): Regional language - measures to overcome language barrier.

Director, IIT Jodhpur made a presentation on the best practices and measures to overcome language barrier across IITs, which was appreciated by the Council.

Recommendations:

1. It was proposed that models be developed in the first semester to support this transition and foster inclusivity. A choice should be given to the student that they may be able to learn in whatever language they want to learn and video content maybe created in various languages using AI transcription for students to refer to, if required.
2. Hon'ble Education Minister encouraged IITs to explore and adopt diverse linguistic approaches to enhance accessibility and promote equity.
3. IITs should serve as a role model for other technical institutes regarding effectively utilizing AI to translate English lectures into regional languages in real time also.
4. Translation of reading/reference material/books into regional languages maybe explored by the institutes, based on their requirement.
5. IIT Jodhpur to present progress in this regard in next Council meeting.

(Action: All IITs, IIT Jodhpur)

Timeline: 3 Months

56.5.18 (55.23): To consider the proposal to establishing various Chairs in IITs to promote Research.

It was informed that all IITs have already established research chairs with minor variations across institutions.

Recommendation:

IIT Ropar to prepare a white paper on this. It may include comparing international best practices, with those in various IITs and private Indian Universities, examining the outcomes of various models. The paper may be placed on the council website for easy access for the benefit of entire higher education ecosystem.

(Action: IIT Ropar)

Timeline: 3 Months

56.5.19 (55.26): National Credit Framework.

The Secretary (Council) reported to the Council that all IITs have aligned their curricula and have been creditizing their programs for a long time. Alignment with the Academic Bank of Credits (ABC) and the National Curriculum Framework has also been done.

Agenda is complied with.

56.5.20 (55.27): Sports Quota in IITs.

The Secretary (Council) informed the Council that IIT Madras and IIT Indore have introduced a sports quota for undergraduate admissions. These are supernumerary seats allocated to students with national-level achievements in sports, aimed at promoting holistic development and recognizing excellence beyond academics. Additionally, IIT Madras has operationalized a similar mechanism under Fine Arts and Culture Excellence, to support students with notable accomplishments in classical music, dance, drama, and visual arts.

The Council was further apprised that IIT Bombay, IIT Kanpur, IIT Gandhinagar, and IIT Madras have launched Olympiad-based direct admission schemes. These allow students who have excelled in national or international Olympiads to gain admission into select undergraduate programs without appearing for JEE Advanced, under defined eligibility and evaluation criteria.

Recommendation:

It was decided that all supernumerary seats and quotas may be integrated into the centralised JoSAA online counselling portal, ensuring transparency and eliminating information asymmetry for students applying to B.Tech seats in IITs. This will ensure transparency and provide all necessary information related to supernumerary quotas

in all IITs to the stakeholders through a single platform. (The 20% supernumerary quota for girls is already being allocated through the JoSAA portal.)

(Action: JAB IIT System, IIT Kanpur)

Timeline: 6 Months

56.5.21 (55.28): Proposal to provide HTRA for a period of 6 years for female PhD scholars.

The agenda has been complied with.

56.6: IIT Education as the driving force for Atmanirbhar and Samridha Bharat – reg.

Dr. Sridhar Vembu made a presentation on reforms in education system and highlighted a practical approach to technical education. It included focus on hands-on learning including reverse engineering by encouraging the students to build things discouraging the "publish-or-perish" culture, which results in low-impact research. Dr. Vembu also suggested encouraging the use of vernacular languages in teaching in IITs. To promote regional languages, the faculty members from IITs were requested to write books (UG and PG level) in Indian languages.

It was further discussed that since selection in IITs is highly competitive, subjecting such high-performing individuals to further intense inter-student competition within IIT classrooms may be counterproductive. It may foster a mindset that is misaligned with real-world scenarios and tends to exacerbate mental health challenges among students. In contrast, success in the real world is largely driven by teamwork, collaboration, leadership, and coordination. Therefore, it was proposed that team-based project work should become the primary mode of learning in the IIT classrooms. This approach would encourage students to collaborate on solving complex

problems, better preparing them for professional environments where collective problem-solving and interpersonal skills are key.

The council further discussed that the committee to be constituted for the Vision 2047 for IITs may consider this and take a broad look at paradigm shift in learning methodologies, classroom pedagogy, and curriculum design. The revised framework should emphasize project-based learning, hands-on experiences, and teamwork as vital components of the new curriculum, ensuring that students are better prepared for real-world challenges through collaborative and experiential learning.

Recommendation:

1. **Curriculum and Pedagogical Reform:** Propose a paradigm shift in learning methodologies, classroom pedagogy, and curriculum design to reflect contemporary educational best practices and global benchmarks.
2. **Integration of Experiential and Hands-On Learning:** inclusion of project-based learning, hands-on experiences, and teamwork as core components of the revised curriculum, ensuring that students are equipped with practical and interpersonal skills necessary for future leadership and innovation.
3. Collation, comparison and presentation of progress of various IITs may be done by IIT Hyderabad.

(Action: All IITs, IIT Hyderabad)

56.7: Reforms & Accountability in Ph.D Education.

IIT Ropar made a presentation that laid out a bold and future-ready vision to transform doctoral education across IITs, aligning it with the national aspirations of Viksit Bharat @ 2047. It emphasized the need to reposition IIT PhD programs as engines of innovation, leadership, and global competitiveness. By embedding scholars within mission-driven frameworks such as quantum technologies, AI, climate resilience, and defense. The

initiative aims to ensure that doctoral research directly contributes to India's strategic priorities and scientific leadership.

The presentation proposed a comprehensive reform of doctoral education in IITs to address persistent challenges such as prolonged PhD durations, administrative delays, limited mentorship, and under-utilised infrastructure. A shift to a **Project-First PhD model** was recommended, emphasizing structured timelines, predefined research goals, and industry collaboration. To foster interdisciplinary research and global exposure, the concept of **Networked PhD programs** across IITs and with international universities was introduced. The establishment of **Doctoral Academies** at each IIT was also proposed to support mentorship, career development, and international engagement, backed by upgraded infrastructure and digital labs.

The institute rankings and faculty promotions continue to be tied to publications, making it difficult to scale up the idea of 'product PhDs'. Metrics around commercialized patents and ventures created have started making a dent into the old trends. Several world-class universities, such as MIT and Stanford in the United States, ETH Zürich in Switzerland, and the Technical University of Munich in Germany, have successfully cultivated ecosystems where doctoral research regularly results in patents, start-ups, and deployable technologies. As institutions of national importance, the IITs are well-positioned to foster an environment where product Ph.D.'s are encouraged and enabled to transform their ideas into tangible products or usable technologies and not journal publications.

Recommendation:

1. **Internal Committee:** All IITs to set up an internal committee that would survey the baseline quality of incoming Ph.D. students, process improvement in administration of Ph.D, and mapping of outcomes.
2. **Roadmap for improvement:** The internal committee would also focus on a roadmap for improving the quality of students being attracted for

PhDs, process of mentoring and guiding, and outcomes of Ph.D. education.

3. **Data monitoring and benchmarking for reforms:** IIT Kanpur in its design for the MIS on research outcomes for IIT Council may pre-define parameters to measure the quality of Ph.D. outcomes which may be shared with all IITs.
4. IITs to initiate reforms to monitor relative performance/dedication of faculty in their PhD guidance and future assignment of number of PhD students to be based on relative performance in this regard.
5. A sub-committee may be formed by MoE to deliberate upon and propose a detailed framework to further promote product based PhDs in IITs along with the existing and make a presentation to Chairman, IIT Council within 1 month from its constitution.

(Action to be taken: MoE, All IITs, IIT Kanpur & IIT Ropar)

56.8: Intensive and outcome-oriented peer reviews process in IITs - Developing a robust peer review and visioning process for the IITs.

Director, IIT Delhi presented the report that outlined a structured framework for institutionalizing external peer review and strategic visioning across academic units. The primary objective is to obtain independent, expert feedback on each unit's long-term vision- defined over a 10-year horizon- and assess progress through a mid-course review every five years. This process aims to sharpen academic focus, identify gaps, and align educational and research programs with broader intellectual and societal imperatives. Key areas of evaluation include research output and impact, curriculum design and delivery, learning outcomes, and operational aspects such as leadership, governance, and resource allocation.

The process involves preparing detailed background documents, assembling diverse expert panels (including international and domestic leaders),



conducting site visits, and engaging with stakeholders across faculty, students, and staff. The expert group delivers a report with recommendations, followed by a formal response from the academic unit outlining its action plan. The presentation emphasized that this bottom-up and top-down approach should be consultative and iterative, with continued engagement from external experts. Examples from recent reviews of the Kusuma School of Biological Sciences and the Department of Materials Science and Engineering illustrated the value of distinguished, multidisciplinary panels and stakeholder engagement in shaping meaningful academic transformation.

Recommendations:

1. **Institutionalize Visioning Cycles:** Implement a 10-year visioning and 5-year mid-course external review for academic units to ensure strategic alignment and continuous improvement.
2. **Ensure Expert and Stakeholder Engagement (domestic and International):** Involve diverse, high-calibre expert panels and facilitate structured interactions with faculty, students, and staff for comprehensive feedback.
3. **Link Reviews to Resource Allocation:** Use peer review outcomes to guide funding decisions and policy support, with academic units required to formally respond and refine their strategic plans.
4. **Peer review may be done every five years.** All institutes that have not completed their peer review process in the past five years may complete the same within one year.
5. **IIT Delhi to prepare a detailed white paper on best practices** in conducting an effective peer review. IITs could share a summary of their reviews with other IITs.

(Action to be taken: All IITs)



56.9: Making JEE Advanced more student friendly – Towards a better and less stressful assessment.

Prof. Manindra Agrawal, Director of IIT Kanpur, shared concerns regarding the current structure of JEE Advanced, the prevalence of a huge coaching industry and the significant emotional and financial stress on families. He highlighted that the exam needs to better assess critical thinking and reasoning skills and be made even more fool proof to operational issues etc. To address these challenges, he proposed a shift to adaptive testing of quantitative and reasoning skills, which dynamically generates questions based on a student's performance. This model further reduces coaching dependency, enhances fairness, and allows flexible, secure testing environments.

Recommendations:

1. **Constitute an Expert Committee:** Expert Committee to be led by JAB and IIT Kanpur, to evaluate the adaptive testing proposal and its potential to reduce coaching dependency and exam vulnerabilities.
2. **Pilot a Free Mock Test:** It is recommended that an optional, adaptive test two months before JEE Advanced may be conducted to help students self-assess and improve. Use this to collect performance data and compare with actual JEE results.
3. **Conduct Systematic Analysis:** Assess the feasibility, impact on student performance, and operational logistics of adaptive testing. Use findings to roll out future exam reforms.
4. **Develop a Question Generation Tool:** Create a robust tool to generate questions of varying difficulty levels dynamically, ensuring fairness and scalability.
5. **Prepare a White Paper:** Based on the pilot results and the expert analysis, outline a phased roadmap with specific timelines for transitioning to adaptive testing in JEE Advanced.

(Action: JAB IIT System, IIT Kanpur)

Timeline: 6 Months



56.10: Impact of AI on Curriculum, Pedagogy, Assessment and Research in HEIs and response by Director IIT Kanpur.

The Director, IISc Bangalore presented the agenda and highlighted a system-wide transformation, covering areas like curriculum updates, faculty development, stronger industry collaboration, and the government's role. The impact of AI on research and student wellbeing was also presented.

The council discussed the impact AI will have on the Curriculum, Pedagogy, Assessment and Research in IITs. It was emphasized to rethink the education system in light of advancements in AI. It was suggested that each IIT should explore over the next 2-3 years, the goal of developing concrete steps to reshape engineering education accordingly.

Recommendation:

1. The Chairman, IIT Council recommended that the traditional curriculum must evolve to prepare the next generation of engineers in IITs for a new paradigm of design by integrating AI/ML as a core competency.
2. Each IIT may establish an Institute-wide AI Task Force focusing on effective AI integration in curriculum, pedagogy and research.
3. IIT Kanpur to coordinate and make a presentation analysing and comparing the relative strengths and weaknesses of various IITs, in this regard, in the next council meeting.

(Action to be taken: All IITs and IIT Kanpur)

56.11: Centralized MIS for IITs and revamped dashboard of IIT council, including data on international & domestic collaborations, industry engagements, research and innovation as the basis for decision and policy making.

The agenda for the IIT MIS Portal was presented to the committee, outlining the need for a centralized digital system to consolidate all institutional data across all IITs. The development of the portal has been assigned to IIT Kanpur, which will lead the creation of a real-time dashboard covering key domains such as student enrolment, faculty, research, infrastructure, governance, and more.

The portal will support automated reporting, ERP integration, and secure role-based access, enabling data-driven governance and alignment with national missions.

Recommendations:

1. **IIT Kanpur to lead development of the MIS portal in consultation with all IITs and Ministry of Education**, with a three-month timeline for dashboard hosting on the IIT Council website. The first version of the portal to be completed by January 2026 and presentation to be made to MoE.
2. **Post-development, the portal prototype should be shared with all IIT Directors** for feedback and refinement. This feedback will be consolidated and presented to the **Secretary, Higher Education** for review.
3. Upon approval, the refined portal and implementation roadmap will be formally presented to the **Chairman of the IIT Council**.

(Action to be taken by: IIT Kanpur)

Timeline: 3 Months

 **56.12: Research Commercialization in Higher Education Institutes Bridging Discovery and Impact.**

Shri Senapathy 'Kris' Gopalakrishnan presented the draft committee report on encouraging a culture of translational research and industry development.

The matter was discussed in detail. Members felt that the collaboration between academia and industry is important to achieve the vision of Atmanirbhar Bharat. The Members also discussed promoting a vibrant startup culture with dedicated grants to bridge the gap between Technology Readiness Levels (TRL) 3 and 8.

The Chairman of the IIT Council acknowledged that the industry-academia relationship needs renewed focus and advised that efforts may be done by all IITs to strengthen this relationship.

Chairman IIT Council requested the committee to submit their final report at the earliest.

56.13: Sharing of credits amongst 23 IITs, within the NCrF/creditation of SWAYAM+.

The matter regarding the implementation of the National Credit Framework (NCF) was discussed extensively. It was informed that a meeting was held with Dean Academics of all IITs at IIT Madras to deliberate on strategies for advancing NCF objectives and enabling greater academic flexibility. The discussion focused on operationalizing mechanisms for credit transfer and student exchange across IITs and other institutions to align with NEP 2020 goals.

It was further agreed upon that student mobility and credit sharing are critical to fostering academic diversity and experiential learning. It was highlighted that IITs should take proactive steps to implement structured targets for student exchange and develop mechanisms for seamless credit transfer across institutions, including NITs and other centrally funded technical institutions.



Recommendations:

1. IITs to set a target of 5% undergraduate student exchange across IITs, ensuring smooth credit transfer for courses taken at other IITs.
2. Inter-IIT team lead by IIT Madras to design a flexible credit-sharing framework with other non-IIT institutions such as NITs, IIITs, IISERs, NLUs etc. enabling cross-institutional learning and developing implementation guidelines and timelines.

(Action to be taken: IIT Madras)

Timelines: 6 Months

56.14: Need to capture the socio – economic impact of IITs within India & Globally and sharing the outcomes of alumni survey of B. Tech Batch of 2013, 2014 & 2015 in IITs.

The outcome of the survey conducted using data extracted from alumni databases across six IITs (IIT Bombay, IIT Delhi, IIT Gandhinagar, IIT Hyderabad, IIT Kanpur and IIT Madras), with a view to analyze the socio-economic impact of IITs within India and globally was presented.

Recommendation:

1. **Expand the survey to all 23 IITs** for the same three graduating years (2013–2015) to capture a comprehensive picture of alumni outcomes and socio-economic impact.
2. **Undertake a high-level assessment of IITs' contribution to India's economy and innovation ecosystem**, focusing on alumni roles as job creators, entrepreneurs, and policy influencers.
3. **Analyze reasons for IIT graduates taking up Ph.D. and Postdoctoral programs outside India**, and propose measures to strengthen research pathways and academic retention.
4. **Prepare a White Paper** consolidating survey insights, economic and non-economic impact analysis, and actionable recommendations for enhancing IITs' role in shaping India's workforce and entrepreneurial landscape.



5. **A presentation to be made to Chairman, IIT Council in 3 months time.**

(Action: IIT Bombay)

Timeline: 3 Months

56.15: Proposal for amendment in the IIT statutes- reg.

A presentation was circulated among all the members of the committee. Director, IIT Dharwad proposed that in the absence of appointment of a regular or officiating BoG Chairperson, in case, holding of a BoG meeting is expedient, any external (neither Director nor faculty) BoG Member may be appointed as the Interim BoG Chair for that meeting by the BoG itself.

Recommendation:

All IITs unanimously agreed to the amendment in their respective statutes to appoint interim Chairman, BoG from one of the Council Nominees of BoG in case the Chairman post is vacant and holding the BoG meeting is expedient.

(Action: All IITs)

Timeline: 3 Months

56.16: "Hands-on Hardware" on basic computer and semiconductor and its applications initiative by IIT Gandhinagar.

Prof. Manish Jain, IIT Gandhinagar presented Project Madhava, a hands-on, multi-level curriculum aimed at transforming semiconductor and hardware education in India. It was informed that the project targets students from high school to engineering colleges, guiding them from basic digital logic to designing and fabricating microprocessors. The project is inspired by global models like MOSIS (USA) and China's initiatives. It emphasizes "learning by doing," teacher training, and scalable content delivery by using the platforms like SWAYAM and Atal Tinkering Labs.



The Council acknowledged the critical need for practical hardware education to support *Atmanirbhar Bharat* and appreciated the efforts of Prof. Jain.

Recommendations:

1. **Curriculum revisions in IITs, NITs for “hands-on hardware”:**
Director, IIT Gandhinagar to organize a workshop of all Dean Academics and HoDs of Electrical Engineering Departments of all 23 IITs and 32 NITs to spearhead changes in the curriculum, credits, and design of the courses in B.Tech. so that the component of hands-on building (designing and fabricating) of microprocessors can be part of the credit framework and testing mechanism. This will ensure that it is made a part of the curriculum & the credit structure.
2. **Monitoring and evaluation:** IIT Gandhinagar may set up a small team to monitor this across 23 IITs and 32 NITs, and outcomes of the same may be presented to Chairman, IIT Council by the first week of April, 2026.

(Action: IIT Gandhinagar)

Timeline: 6 Months

56.17: Industry linkage of IIT Bhubaneshwar in semi-conductor domain.

A presentation was circulated among all the members of the committee. The presentation included initiatives taken for industry linkage in semi-conductor domain.

Recommendation:

IIT council welcomed this move of IIT Bhubaneshwar and suggested that all IITs should explore the possibility of industry linkage in critically aligned mission and areas of national priority in consultation with other Ministry/ Departments of GoI and State Government.

(Action: All IITs)



56.18: Prime Minister Research Chair Scheme to attract and engage global talent of Indian-origin.

Shri Govind Jaiswal, Joint Secretary, MoE presented the proposal regarding the Prime Minister Research Chair (PMRC) Scheme, aiming to attract top Indian-origin researchers and scientists to strengthen India's higher education and research ecosystem.

It was informed that the scheme proposes to engage 120 fellows across three categories—Young Research Fellows, Senior Research Fellows, and Research Chairs over five years. The scheme will focus on 14 nationally significant priority sectors including semiconductors, AI, clean energy, and advanced materials. The scheme seeks to improve institutional research capacity, boost innovation, and enhance India's global standing in science, technology, and academic excellence.

The Council was made aware of the in-principle agreement for the Prime Minister Research Chair Scheme, with the understanding that the initiative will be launched soon in a structured, large-scale way to attract and engage global talent of Indian origin.

56.19: Outreach Activities of IITs for Inclusive Growth on:

A presentation was circulated among all the members of the committee on the outreach activities of IITs for inclusive growth on:

- Vidya Samagam Scheme of IIT Indore
- Ek Bharat Shrestha Bharat, Additional Secretary (Edu.), MoE
- Kaashi Tamil Sangamam, IIT Madras
- Unnat Bharat Abhiyan, JS (ICC), MoE
- SPICMACAY, IIT Tirupati

 It was desired that all IITs should explore similar initiatives and activities for inclusive growth and outreach.

(Action: All IITs)

56.20: Aligning the Graduate/Post Graduate and Ph.D courses within IITs to critical technology and National Priorities.

Director, IIT Gandhinagar presented the proposal for aligning the Graduate/Post graduate and PhD courses within IITs to critical technology and National priorities such as AI/ML, quantum computing, data analytics, cybersecurity, and semiconductors.

The matter was discussed in detail. It was suggested that the curricula must be reviewed by including new courses, removing outdated ones, and promoting interdisciplinary education.

Recommendations

Technology integration: For Post Graduate courses, PhDs, Postdoctoral degrees, study in IITs must focus on emerging technologies and innovation in the high tech space including AI, data analysis, Machine learning, etc. All other fields such as humanities etc. should be based on their integration with technology, to achieve the goal of *Viksit and Atmanirbhar Bharat* by 2047.

(Action: All IITs)

Concluding Remarks:

The Hon'ble Minister of Education emphasized the strategic importance of IITs in India's journey toward *Viksit Bharat@2047*. He underlined that IITs must evolve from elite institutions into engines of national development, rooted in the vision of *Atmanirbharta, Samruddha Bharat, and Swadeshi innovation*.

IITs, he said, must not be remembered merely as exporters of talent, but as nation-builders that create industries, solve India's toughest challenges, and inspire the world. He called upon IITs to nurture graduates with a nation-

first mindset, advancing technological sovereignty, societal progress, and civilizational resurgence. From their inception, IITs have been the drivers of national progress through talent, innovation, and alignment with national missions like Make in India, Digital India, Startup India, and Aatmanirbhar Bharat.

He urged IITs to lead national missions, drive deep-tech startups, and position India as a global technology powerhouse. The Minister emphasized that IITs must shift from producing job seekers to job creators by promoting deep-tech entrepreneurship in defense, agritech, mining, biotech, telecom, and semiconductors.

He called for industry-linked entrepreneurship courses, incubators, and credit-linked startup schemes within curricula, and for IITs like Bombay and Madras to emerge as global deep-tech hubs. He reiterated that sector-wise IIT-industry alignment is vital, particularly in telecom, defense, agriculture, healthcare, mining, and clean energy.

He noted allocations of ₹11,829 crore for expansion and ₹1,942 crore through HEFA for infrastructure in 2025–26. This, he stated, marks a significant investment in India's knowledge economy during the Amrit Kaal. IITs were encouraged to expand their international footprint. Simultaneously, IITs must deepen domestic outreach through initiatives like Unnat Bharat Abhiyan, Vidya Samagam, Kaashi Tamil Sangamam, and SPIC MACAY, ensuring IITs connect Bharat's villages to the world's frontiers. The Minister stressed that IITs must ensure campus inclusivity by 2047, achieving gender parity and expanding opportunities for rural, regional, and first-generation learners. He also urged IITs to harness AI for inclusion for language accessibility, wellbeing, and student support.



From this semester, IITs must begin experiments in teaching through Bharatiya bhasha, giving Indian languages their rightful place in science and technology.

The Minister directed the preparation of a Vision 2047 Roadmap with clear milestones for nation-building, technological sovereignty, and knowledge leadership. On governance, he called for digital-first administration, a One Nation, One Data framework, stronger post-doctoral pathways, and finalization of OCI faculty guidelines at the earliest. Looking ahead, the Minister set strategic targets for 2047: nurturing one lakh entrepreneurs creating 200 unicorns, achieving campus inclusivity, and building over 50 global partnerships. He concluded that by pursuing these priorities with determination, IITs will stand as pillars of Viksit Bharat, driving civilizational resurgence, technological leadership, and global influence. He called for translational research that moves beyond prototypes to market-ready solutions, and for IITs to serve as living laboratories of sustainability, inclusivity, and innovation.

The Hon'ble Minister concluded by reminding that IITs are already proven centers of excellence. If pursued with determination, IITs will not only be symbols of academic excellence, but the pillars of Viksit Bharat, driving civilizational resurgence, technological leadership, and global influence.

The meeting ended with a vote of thanks.



LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

56th Meeting of the Council of IITs held on 25th August, 2025 at Senate Room, First Floor, Main Administrative Building, IIT Delhi.

Sl. No.	Name & Designation
1.	Shri Dharmendra Pradhan (Chairperson, IIT Council), Hon'ble Education Minister
2.	Dr. Sukanta Majumdar Hon'ble Minister of State (MoS), Ministry of Education
3.	Shri Tanuj Punia Hon'ble Member of Parliament (LS)
4.	Dr. Rabindra Narayan Behera Hon'ble Member of Parliament (LS)
5.	Shri Vineet Joshi Secretary (HE), Ministry of Education
6.	Shri S. Somanath Former Secretary ISRO & Former Secretary, Department of Space
7.	Dr. Sekhar C. Mande Former Secretary, DSIR & Former Director General, CSIR
8.	Shri Adil Siraj Zainulbhai Chairman, BoG IIT Ropar & IIT Goa
9.	Shri A. S. Kiran Kumar Chairman, BoG IIT Jodhpur
10.	Dr. B. V. R. Mohan Reddy, Chairman, BoG IIT Hyderabad & IIT Roorkee
11.	Adv. Harish Salve, Chairman, BoG IIT Delhi (Online)
12.	Dr. Pawan Goenka, Chairman, BoG IIT Madras
13.	Prof. Prem Vrat, Chairman, BoG IIT (ISM) Dhanbad
14.	Dr. Rajendra Prasad Singh, Chairman, BoG IIT Bhubaneswar
15.	Shri Ramesh Venkateswaran Chairman, BoG IIT Palakkad
16.	Shri Sajjan Jindal Chairman, BoG IIT Tirupati
17.	Shri Sanjiv Puri Chairman, BoG IIT Gandhinagar
18.	Shri Senapathy 'Kris' Gopalakrishnan Chairman, Council of the Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore

Sl. No.	Name & Designation
19.	Shri Sharad Kumar Saraf Chairman, BoG IIT Jammu & IIT Bombay
20.	Dr. Suresh Haware (Additional responsibility/Charge of Chairman, BoG IIT Bhilai)
21.	Prof. T. G. Sitharam Chairman, All-India Council for Technical Education (AICTE)
22.	Shri T.V. Narendran Chairman, BoG IIT Kharagpur
23.	Prof. A. Seshadri Sekhar Director, Indian Institute of Technology, Palakkad
24.	Prof. Amit Patra, Director, Indian Institute of Technology - (BHU)
25.	Prof. Avinash Kumar Agarwal Director, Indian Institute of Technology-Jodhpur
26.	Prof. B.S. Murty Director, Indian Institute of Technology- Hyderabad
27.	Prof. Devendra Jalihal Director, Indian Institute of Technology, Guwahati
28.	Prof. Dharendra S. Katti Director, Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Goa
29.	Prof. Kamal Kishore Pant Director, Indian Institute of Technology, Roorkee
30.	Prof. K. N. Satyanarayana Director, Indian Institute of Technology, Tirupati
31.	Prof. Laxmidhar Behera Director, Indian Institute of Technology, Mandi
32.	Prof. Manoj Singh Gaur, Director, Indian Institute of Technology, Jammu (J&K)
33.	Prof. Manindra Agrawal Director, Indian Institute of Technology, Kanpur
34.	Prof. Rajat Moona Director, Indian Institute of Technology-Gandhinagar
35.	Prof. Rajeev Ahuja, Director, Indian Institute of Technology - Ropar
36.	Prof. Rajiv Prakash, Director, Indian Institute of Technology, Bhilai-Durg
37.	Prof. Rangan Banerjee, Director, Indian Institute of Technology, Delhi
38.	Prof. Shireesh B. Kedare Director, Indian Institute of Technology, Bombay
39.	Prof. Shreepad Karmalkar Director, Indian Institute of Technology-Bhubaneshwar

Sl. No.	Name & Designation
40.	Prof. Suhas S. Joshi Director, Indian Institute of Technology -Indore
41.	Prof. Sukumar Mishra, Director, Indian Institute of Technology (ISM) Dhanbad
42.	Prof. Suman Chakraborty, Director, Indian Institute of Technology, Kharagpur
43.	Prof. T.N. Singh Director, Indian Institute of Technology, Patna
44.	Prof. Venkappayya R. Desai, Director, Indian Institute of Technology, Dharwad
45.	Prof. V. Kamakoti Director, Indian Institute of Technology, Madras
46.	Prof. Govindan Rangarajan Director, Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore
47.	Shri S K Barnwal, Additional Secretary (Edu.) Ministry of Education
48.	Ms. Saumya Gupta, Joint Secretary (TE) & Secretary IIT Council, Ministry of Education
49.	Shri Sanjog Kapoor, Joint Secretary (JS&FA), Ministry of Education (Nominee of D/o Expenditure)
50.	Sh. Govind Jaiswal, Joint Secretary (TEL) Ministry of Education
51.	Shri Armstrong Pame, Joint Secretary (ICC & RUSA) Ministry of Education
52.	Mrs. Garima Sharma, Deputy Secretary, Ministry of Education
53.	Shri Nilesh Chandra Srivastava, Under Secretary (IITs) Ministry of Education



Special Invitees

Sl. No.	Name & Designation
1.	Prof. Abhay Karandikar, Secretary, Department of Science & Technology
2.	Prof. Anil D Sahasrabudhe, Chairman, EC-NAAC & Chairman-NETF
3.	Shri Chamu Krishna Shastry, Co-Founder of Samskrita Bharati
4.	Ms. Debjani Ghosh, Distinguished Fellow, NITI Aayog
5.	Shri Deepak Bagla, CEO (Atal Innovation Mission)
6.	Dr. K. Radhakrishnan, Indian space scientist and former chairman of Space Mission
7.	Prof. M. Jagadesh Kumar, Former Chairman, University Grants Commission
8.	Shri Neeraj Mittal, Secretary, Department of Telecommunications
9.	Dr. Rajesh S. Gokhale, Secretary, Department of Biotechnology
10.	Dr. Sridhar Vembu, CEO of Zoho Corporation

