

Top faculty from IITs, NITs to mentor tech institutes

Amandeep Shukla

letters@hindustantimes.com

NEW DELHI : Soon faculty from the country's best tech institutes will work as mentors with colleges, which lag behind in terms of teaching techniques, curriculum and suffer from inadequate faculty.

The plan is part of a push by All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) to ensure that half of the programmes offered by technical institutions in the country have the approval of the National Board of Accreditation (NBA) before 2022.

An analysis by All India Council for Technical Education has revealed that hundreds of engineering institutes are unable to get courses okayed by the NBA due to inadequate emphasis on learning outcomes, teaching faculty and outdated curriculum.

Under the mentorship plan 200 faculty members from the best technical institutions will be appointed as 'margdarshaks' for institutions struggling to get accreditations, according to a senior human resource development ministry official.

"The mentors would choose 5-10 institutions which are within the 500 km radius of the nodal institution. They will try to help institutions clear NBA accreditation for at least 2/3rd of the courses offered by them. The target is that each of these



Under the mentorship plan, 200 faculty members from the best technical institutions will be appointed as 'margdarshaks'. HT FILE

Academic leaders of repute, including those retired, who have the capacity to travel and train institutions and their faculty would be chosen.

AN OFFICIAL

mentors will ensure that the institutions mentored by them will get NBA accreditation by 2022," the official said.

According to the plan chalked out by the ministry of human resource development and All India Council for Technical Education, mentors will be selected from among the top 50

institutions including the IITs and top NITs.

"Academic leaders of repute, including those retired, who have the capacity to travel and train institutions and their faculty would be chosen. The AICTE will then hold special training sessions for these mentors so that the focus on achieving the NBA accreditation process is clear," said the official.

The All India Council for Technical Education would then write to the institutions about the appointment of mentors for helping them reach the required standards of accreditation, the official said.

It is estimated that as many as 2,000 engineering colleges could come under the purview of this initiative, an official said.