

23 Indian Varsities Among Top 1,000 in QS Rankings

Our Bureau

Kolkata: Twenty-three Indian institutes have made it to the top 1,000 of the prestigious Quacquarelli Symonds (QS) World University rankings.

Indian Institute of Technology-Bombay topped the list of local institutions, even as Indian universities recorded an average decline of 12 ranks in the overall table, courtesy poor faculty-student and international student ratios. However, the country has significantly improved its standing on the research front, showing a 30% jump in the five-year citation impact.

IIT-Bombay has risen ten places to the 152nd spot. Four of the 23 Indian institutes improved their positions, while seven saw a fall in their ranks.

The latest dataset used by QS indicates that Indian research performance is improving at a rate significantly above the global average. Globally, the average academic produces research that is cited 50.31 times in a five-year period — an increase from 45 times in last year's edition, or a 10% improvement. However, research produced by Indian universities has increased its average five-year citations impact from 28.54 per faculty member to 37.18 — an increase of 30%.

The rankings, produced by global higher education consultancy QS Quacquarelli Symonds, have Massachusetts Institute of Technology at the top for a record eighth consecutive year. Asia's top universities are the National University of Singapore and Nany-

ang Technological University, which are tied at 11 the spot.

Indian Institute of Science-Bangalore (184th globally) achieved the world's second-best score for research impact, adjusted for faculty size. It achieved a perfect score of 100/100 for QS' Citations per faculty metric, and is the first Indian institution in history to see its research cited more than 1,00,000 times in a five-year period.

"While this new edition of the rankings shows that the Indian higher education system is making progress in some key areas, the sector requires more substantial, sustained and strategic investments, both in research and education," QS research director Ben Sowter said in a statement.

Besides IIT-Bombay, the other Indian institutes in the top 1,000 are IIT-Delhi, IISc-Bangalore, IIT-Madras, IIT-Kharagpur, IIT-Kanpur, IIT-Roorkee, University of Delhi, IIT-Guwahati, Jadavpur University, Manipal Academy of Higher Education, Anna University, Jamia Millia Islamia, OP Jindal Global University, Aligarh Muslim University, Amrita Vishwa Vidyapeetham, Banaras Hindu University, Birla Institute of Technology & Science, Savitribai Phule Pune University, Thapar University, University of Calcutta, University of Mumbai and Vellore Institute of Technology.

QS used six indicators to compile the ranking: academic reputation, employer reputation, citations per faculty, faculty/student ratio, international faculty ratio and international student ratio.