

IITs have a plan beyond 4-year B.Tech: Weak students could exit in 3 yrs with BSc in Engg

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ANCHOR**

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THE COUNTRY'S premier engineering institutes, the Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs), may permit academically weak students to exit early, after three years, with a B.Sc. degree in engineering.

The proposal is on the agenda of the IIT Council meeting called Friday. The Indian Express has learned. The Council, headed by the Human Resource Development Minister, is the

highest decision-making body of all the 23 institutes.

Currently, students enrolled in undergraduate programmes across all IITs are awarded a B.Tech degree after completing eight semesters or four years. However, students with weak grades drop out midway.

According to data shared by the HRD Ministry in Parliament this year, 2,461 students dropped out of different IITs in the last two years across B.Tech and post-graduate programmes. These include cases of expulsion on account of weak academic performance. For instance this year, IIT-Kanpur expelled 18 students on the grounds of poor grades, of which half were B.Tech



IIT Kharagpur: 9 lakh take the Mains, 13,500 got an IIT seat

students.

It is for such students the HRD Ministry has proposed that the IITs consider providing an

exit option after six semesters. As per the Council agenda, the IITs have been asked to approve the proposal to allow academi-

ALSO ON THE AGENDA

- Entrepreneurship as an optional minor paper with 15 credits at undergrad level.
- Joint degree programs of PhD among IITs
- Action plan to deal with agents approaching IITs to help improve ranking

cally weak students to opt for B.Sc. (Engineering) after the second semester and leave after

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