

# IIT-B to implement a third of EWS quota in first year

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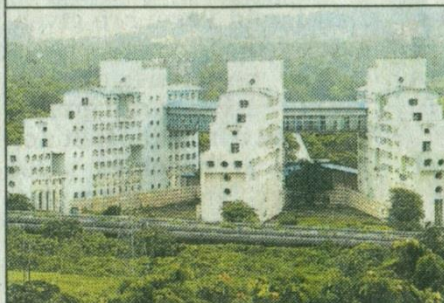
**Mumbai:** Unable to take the load of an additional 10% quota in a year, IIT-Bombay is planning to introduce the quota for the economically-weaker section (EWS) in general category in two phases. In the first year, institute authorities have decided to increase the intake capacity by over one-third of the requirement and the remaining majority seats will be added in 2020-21. The institute has written to the Centre about the additional requirements on the campus.

Introducing a 10% EWS quota, keeping the seats in open category, SC, ST and the supernumerary seats intact, will mean a total growth of 25%. In a proposal sent to the ministry of human resources & development (MHRD), the institute said its total intake is likely to go up 557, in all programmes. The government has asked all central institutes to implement the quota in two years.

The student strength on the Powai campus is around 11,000. After implementing the EWS quota, the strength in four to five years is likely to go up by 2,750. "The institute not only requires hostels for students' accommodation, but to maintain the students-faculty ratio, more teachers will have to be appointed. We

## RESERVATIONS IN TWO PHASES

**IIT-Bombay plans to introduce a quota for the economically-weaker section (EWS) in general category in two phases**



**THE REASON** | It is unable to take the load of an additional 10% quota in a year

**WHAT THE CENTRE SAID** | The Union government had told all central institutes to implement the quota in two years

Student strength on Powai campus **Around 11,000**

After quota, strength in 5 yrs may go up by **2,750**

will also need to build faculty accommodation for the additional load," said a professor from the institute.

Even with the current strength, the institute is grappling with space issues. An official said, "Two seven-storey hostels (17 and 18) are under construction, of which the latter is likely to be ready by June. Each of these hostels has a capacity to accommodate 1,115 students. The construction for hostel 18 started in December 2016 and it took a little over two years to complete. These two hostels were planned to deal with the shortage of space. The EWS quota was not even accounted for then."

A senior official said they welcomed the Centre's move,

but it was critical for the institute to implement the additional quota. "It is like building a new IIT, within the old IIT. Building constructions require various sanctions — plan approvals, design approvals, etc. Some locations where trees have to be cut requires additional permission. The process takes time and all this cannot be built in a day. This additional 10% is a challenge for the institute," said the official.

MHRD secretary R Subrahmanyam said IIT-Bombay had agreed to increase the intake by 557 in all programmes in two years. The institute will get funds for the additional capacity, but details are yet to be worked out, he added.