



Dear friends of IIT Gandhinagar,

It is my pleasure to connect with you as we greet the new year with renewed hope and enthusiasm. After the Institute bid farewell to its founding director Prof. Sudhir K. Jain, who assumed office as Vice Chancellor of Banaras Hindu University earlier this year, Prof. Amit Prashant led IITGN as officiating director until I joined on Oct 3, 2022. The past couple of months have been very exciting for me as I have begun to meet new colleagues, learn about the unique culture of IITGN and settle into my role.

Of Resilience & Milestones

After a couple of years of Covid-induced disruptions, the IITGN campus has come alive again with its full student strength and is pulsating once more with in-person academic, social and community life.

The challenges brought about by Covid surges this year were efficiently managed by using institutional facilities like the guest house and hostel blocks for isolation and recovery. Of course, we continue to remain vigilant as the world experiences another Covid surge and are prepared with the necessary resources and strategies to meet any new challenges.

IITGN achieved many milestones during this academic year. The Institute was ranked among the **top 10 institutions in India in the Global Universities Rankings 2022-23 published by the US News & World Report**, a Washington DC-based educational ranking organisation. Specifically, the Institute has been ranked **7th in India and 725th globally**. We also bagged the **Eat Right Campus Award** with a five-star rating from FSSAI for the third consecutive year, the second prize in the **3rd National Water Awards** by the Ministry of Jal Shakti for planning and management of water resources on campus, and the **'AESA Award 2022'** in the non-residential institutional category for our 'Central Arcade' building.

Academics and Research

The B.Tech batch of 2022 recently started classes after the completion of their Foundation Programme. This batch, which is hopefully the last whose regular schedule was delayed by the



pandemic, is also the first to have supernumerary seats for students selected in training camps for the four oldest International Olympiads in Mathematics, Physics, Chemistry, and Informatics. We also directly admitted students, for the first time, students in our new B.Tech-M.Tech dual degree programmes in Computer Science & Engineering and Electrical Engineering.

- **16 of our Ph.D scholars were selected for the prestigious Prime Minister's Research Fellowship (PMRF) in the May 2022 cycle.** The Institute currently has 47 [PMRF](#) fellows, a remarkable number for our size.
- We conducted the third edition of [Invention Factory](#) India, a unique summer programme in which students conceive, prototype, and pitch inventions that address different societal or consumer needs, and filed US as well as Indian provisional patent applications for their inventions, all in a duration of seven weeks.
- The Institute commissioned '[PARAM Ananta](#)', a supercomputing facility under the National Supercomputing Mission and also inaugurated a multidimensional academic makerspace to act as a centralised hub for rapid prototyping and innovation.
- Our [research](#) footprint continues to expand. While many of our faculty members have been making major discoveries, it is heartening to see that some of them are taking findings from their lab to the market through their own start-ups. The IITGN [Research Park](#) and the IIT Gandhinagar Innovation and Entrepreneurship Centre ([IIEC](#)) are helping IITGN cement its place as a leading hub of interdisciplinary research and industrial collaborations.
- Importantly, to communicate our research advancements to a broader audience, we launched the annual "[Research Spectra](#)" magazine, periodic newsletters, and a variety of social media series that focus on the research of our faculty, students or postdoctoral researchers.

Partnerships and Opportunities

The Institute continues to build academic and corporate partnerships both in India and abroad. During the past year we signed or renewed various Memoranda of Understanding with the Archaeological Survey of India; Japan Advanced Institute of



Science and Technology; ArcelorMittal Nippon Steel India Limited; HILTI; University of Washington, Seattle; University of Miami; IIT Madras; M.P. Council of Science & Technology; among others.

Milestone in Philanthropic Support

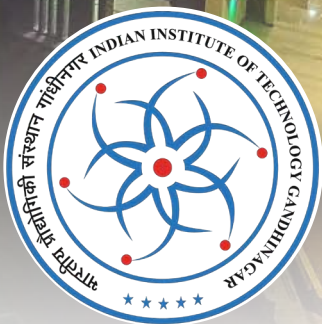
Philanthropic support from our well-wishers and friends has given force to many of our unique programmes and initiatives. **IITGN has crossed Rs 100 crore in philanthropic receipts since its inception**, a remarkable feat for a 14-year-old institution. This year, donors established several student scholarships as well as the “Prof. Sudhir K. Jain Chair”, “B. V. Jagadeesh Chair”, “Pandya-Shivpuri Chair in Population Dynamics”, “Archaeological Chair”, “Erach and Meheroo Mehta Dakshana Memorial Scholarship”, “Bhalodia-Khetan Summer Research Excellence Award”, and the “Shah Bhogilal Jethalal Laboratory for Passive Fire Systems Testing”. Prof. Nitish Thakor of Johns Hopkins University, USA made a significant donation to support themed research workshops and networking events between faculty members at IITGN and those at other institutions.

Campus Development:

Our campus construction is progressing very well. The [Guest house](#) and [Research Park](#) started operations this year. The newly commissioned [Sports Complex](#) hosted a National-level Squash Open and co-hosted the 36th National Games for Athletics, Squash, Softball, and Triathlon events. The masterplan for [Art on Campus](#) has been completed and installations are about to start. The final portion of the academic complex within Phase 1 of campus construction is expected to be completed by March 2023.

IITGN lives by its “students first” motto. With a focus on the overall wellness of our students, we launched the “[Student Well-Being](#)” initiative to provide them a nurturing environment to share their academic or non-academic problems and seek support from a team of committed faculty members.

At the recently concluded 36th Inter IIT Aquatics Meet of students, IITGN won two Gold Medals and one Silver Medal.



The Institute welcomed 13 new [faculty](#), increasing the regular faculty strength to 123. A special faculty recruitment drive for reserved categories is currently in process, enhancing faculty diversity.

With a deep-rooted belief in inclusivity and community [outreach](#), the Centre for Creative Learning (CCL), NEEV and Nyasa continue to extend and share our knowledge and facilities with our neighbours and broader community.

The year concluded with 'Homecoming', our annual alumni meet, which was attended by over 300 IITGN alumni from around the world. The highlights of this year's Homecoming included the felicitation of four successful alumni with the first "**IITGN Young Alumni Excellence Awards**", Decennial Reunion of the first batch of IITGN graduates from 2012, as well as a "Grad Walk" for the class of 2020 and 2021, who missed the experience of physical convocation ceremonies due to the pandemic.

A sapling that was planted and nurtured 14 years ago has grown into a resilient tree extending its branches in all directions and beginning to bear academic and research fruits. Our faculty have made significant contributions through their research and scholarship as well as innovative teaching and learning initiatives, while our students have excelled in the classrooms and beyond. Our staff have worked tirelessly to support the mission of the Institute, and our young alumni have made a mark in their respective fields and communities.

I am filled with optimism as we look ahead to the new year. I am confident that together we will continue to make a difference in the world. I express my heartfelt gratitude to all of you for joining us in our endeavour to establish ourselves as a global destination for higher education and innovation.

Wishing you all a very happy and successful 2023.



Rajat Moona

Director, IIT Gandhinagar

