

IIT-Gn to get Rs 90cr for research-park on campus

Spread across 1.2 lakh square feet, the park aims at bringing industries and academia together for research purposes

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Indian Institute of Technology, Gandhinagar (IIT-Gn) will be the first among the new IITs to set up a research park in its campus. The Central Government has approved Rs90 crore grant to IIT-Gn to set up the research facility which will be availed by industries as well.

Officials at the IIT-Gn stated that the research facility will be developed in a 1.2 lakh square feet space, at its new campus in Palaj near Gandhinagar. Advisor to Industries at IIT-Gn, Nirmal Jha, said that the institute's authorities have already identified the space and are currently working on issuing tenders.

"It is a known fact that research is not popular among industries in India as it is in other countries.

The idea behind setting up this research park is to help industries pursue research with academia and find solutions while developing new products. It is a win-win situation for the academic institute as well as industry. Students will get a wider exposure and an opportunity to work on practical problems faced by the industry," he stated.

Though IIT-Gn has started the lab in a temporary facility, it has bigger plans once the new research park is built. The space will be rented out to industries for a specific period. "We are currently finalising the rent. Industries will pay for per square feet usage. We have a laboratory for each engineering discipline (taught at IIT-gn) and this will also be available to industries that choose to do research projects with us," he said.

The project is being monitored by Jha along with incubation and commercialisation officer Anand Pandey. The officials stated that an industry will be able to rent-out minimum 120 square feet area and



A makeshift park is operational

IIT-GN ORGANISES DRONE RACE

The first ever drone racing event was organized at IIT Gandhinagar (IITGN) as a part of Amalthea, the annual technical summit, in association with Indian Drone Racing League (IDRL) on October 22 and 23. The event saw participation of professional pilots who have been flying quadcopters since more than eight years. The pilots had to complete 5 laps of the race-course while flying their quadcopters through various checkpoints, with speeds ranging from 50 to 100 Kmph.

Bhavesh Sangani, the winner of the event, is a senior design engineer in a private company and has been into drone flying for last eight years. Sanani, said, "The scenario of drone flying in India is a little dicey due to strict rules. The aim of the racing event was to draw a thick line between a hobby pilot and a person who misuses the drone."

maximum 1,000 square feet area.

"This brings immense opportunity for students as participating in industrial research and looking for industry-specific solutions will enhance their practical skills as engineers," they stated.