

IIT-Gn hosted a small party to celebrate the SC verdict



IIT-Gn's Orenda is a safe space to discuss things which are considered taboo in the society

The institute has always been very supportive of the idea of gender diversity and it makes sure that no student faces discriminations. Rahul Upadhyay, a second year MTech student and the president of the queer club at the campus, says, "We have a gender and sexuality club named Orenda, which is a safe space to discuss things that are considered taboo in the society. We organize many events to spread awareness about gender, alternate sexualities, sex education. We organize guest lectures, workshops, panel discussions, street plays, musical performances, online competitions, postermaking, group activities and many more." IIT Gandhinagar also offers a program for BTech students that highlights the importance of gender sensitization. Harvansh Dandelia, a first-year mechanical en-

gineering student, adds, "Our college is a LGBTQ friendly campus. The college has provided the option for third gender in the admission forms. We have people from the community who study here with as much freedom as the other students." The students celebrated the historic verdict by cutting a cake. Rahul feels, "This law wasn't just targeting the LGBTQ community, but it was targeting every individual of the country. I am very glad that homosexuality and gay sex is no longer a criminal offence." He adds, "Though it's going to take time for the society to change their perspective, I believe the change has already begun and the society is changing, for good."

While there is still a long way to go, we love the jubilant mood at the campuses after the verdict. Section 377, we won't miss you!

Title: IIT-Gn's Orenda is a safe space to discuss things which are considered taboo in the society

Source: The Times of India (Ahmadabad Times Pg. no.2)

Date: 11-09-2018
