



IIT Bhubaneswar honoured with 'University of the Year' award by FICCI

Award ceremony held during the 16th FICCI Higher Education Summit 2021 By Our Correspondent

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Jury comprised an eminent panel of experts chaired by Prof RA Mashelkar. Image Source: IIT Bhubaneswar

Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Bhubaneswar was honoured with the University of the Year award at the FICCI Higher Education Excellence Awards 2021 ceremony on February 26. IIT Bhubaneswar bagged the award in the category of universities in existence for 11-30 years.

There were as many as 11 categories of awards in the seventh edition of the event held during the 16th FICCI Higher Education Summit 2021.

The jury comprised an eminent panel of experts chaired by Prof RA Mashelkar.

Speaking on the occasion, IIT Bhubaneswar director RV Raja Kumar said, "IIT Bhubaneswar has been trying to offer holistic education to its students, in standards at par with the cream of global class institutions by bringing in academic excellence through several unique pedagogical and operational reforms. The sudden onset of the pandemic posed us a lot of challenges in fulfilling the self-imposed commitment and the institute had to bring in the right innovative processes required for offering education which are not compromised or affected by the pandemic. Some of the distinguished and unique innovative initiatives the institute could bring in, in this endeavour, include switching to online education with zero gap at the onset of lockdown and holding of a combination of partial lab practice online and the rest with the physical presence of the students."

During the COVID-19 lockdown, IIT Bhubaneswar helped students who stayed back on the campus, faculty and staff members and their families, including 2000 construction workers. The campus was COVID free except for five cases reported in September 2020.

Universities which have established a sustainable ecosystem for showcasing exceptional performance to promote faculty, curriculum/pedagogy, internationalisation, research, employability, industry engagement, social responsibility to demonstrate tangible outcomes by leveraging communities and technologies to encourage student entrepreneurship, managing transparent governance and sustaining a culture of quality teaching-learning were judged for the award by FICCI (Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce & Industry).

"The entire institute, including the faculty, staff and the students participated in all these endeavors upon my own calls and the institute could very successfully implement all of these, apply in practice and has been successful in all the initiatives. Many faculty members, staff and students have worked hard as a team in very successfully realising these initiatives and all deserve to be complemented," Kumar added.

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