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394 receive degrees at IIT-Gn

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Ahmedabad:

Public policy, science and innovations can change lives and create a huge impact on humankind. "Science and innovation must be used to tackle the national challenges of poverty and health," said Dr Swati Piramal, vice-chairperson of Piramal Group, in her convocation address at IIT Gandhinagar (IIT-Gn) on Saturday.

The institute conferred degrees to a total of 394 students in the ceremony including 145 BTech, 105 MTech, 86 MSc, 21 MA, 27 PhD and 7 PGDIIT degrees. For the first time, a student got the dual degree of BTech-MSc and two got BTech-MTech integrated degrees. A total of 53 students were awarded medals for academic excellence. Aparna Tumkur, a BTech (electrical) student, won President's Gold Medal for overall highest GPA along with three other golds.

In her address, Dr Piramal asked the students to have a higher purpose to get driven towards excellence. "We must always have an impossible dream. A dream which seems impossible but with great effort and a noble cause it comes within your grasp," she said.

Officiating director Prof Amit Prashant thanked Prof Sudhir Jain, founding director of the institute, in his speech. He mentioned establishment of Maker Bhavan, Invent@IITGN, scaling up of nondegree programmes and steps to expand research and development as some of the major milestones for the last academic year.



Pics: TOI



(Bottom left) Swati Piramal, vice-chairperson, Piramal Group, was the chief guest at IIT-Gn convocation; (right) Amit Prashant, officiating director, IIT-Gn



'Establish cadre of public-health workers'

Ahmedabad:
 Prof Vinod Paul, a member of NITI Aayog, in his convocation address at Indian Institute of Public Health, Gandhinagar (IIPH-G) on Saturday urged the state government to take lead in setting up a cadre of public health workers and set an example for the country. He also mentioned that along with emphasis on individual health, there should be a thinking dedicated to public health management. A total of 107 students from the courses Master in Public Health (MPH), Postgraduate diploma in Public Health Management (PGDPHM) and Associate Fellow in Industrial Health (AFIH) received their degrees in the event. Sudhir Mehta, chairman of Torrent Group, was guest of honour at the event. "Data related to health should be collected, analysed and interpreted to improve

services. Technology should be used to enhance delivery of services," said Prof Paul, adding that areas such as mental health should not be ignored.