

# Double the joy

What if you were an engineering student who wants to study science? Well, if you are in IITGn, you get a dual degree and encouragement for choosing interdisciplinary studies

| Harita.Dave  
@timesgroup.com

TWEETS @harrytaMIRROR

**M**ost of us have watched *3 Idiots*, a movie which kept knowledge on pedestal instead of uniforms, institutes or degrees. Like the character *Rancho*, the hunger for education and learning, helped Amogh Parab, 22, to get a dual degree, today, on the eighth convocation of IIT Gandhinagar.

Around 400 students in various academic programmes will be awarded degrees in the presence of Dr Swati Piramal, Vice Chairperson, Piramal Group. Among all the students, Parab is the only one who chose a diverse field and will be awarded a dual degree (BTech-MSc) for the first time.

In the last semester of BTech, Parab took the decision of shifting from engineering to sciences and IITGn formulated a programme to avail him interdisciplinary education. He said, "I wanted to shift from engineering to Math as I had immense interest in it. I am happy that I have opened the doors for other students who would want to choose a programme other than their graduating degree."

Parab completed his BTech in 3.5 years. In the first semester of his third year, he did an internship in Mathematics in Ohio State University, USA. He managed to complete the studies for the first semester of the fourth year, well in advance.

Parab added, "As I wanted to study Maths, during my graduation I finished four core courses. I shared this with my professors and also with former Director Sudhir Jain, who backed me happily. Even my seniors told me that if they had such an option, they would have also opted

the same."

Authorities stated that it was due to Parab that this particular dual degree started. He will be awarded a bronze medal for the best performance in the core courses of Math (class of 2018). Apart from him, there are two students who will get dual degree but in BTech-MTech course.

Indranath Sengupta, Associate Professor in Math Discipline said, "The programme was designed and conceived keeping Amogh's case in mind. The programme is designed in such a way, that the transformation from engineering to MSc is smooth. IITGn takes interest in the welfare of students and so we were flexible in making amendments. He expressed interest and then a committee was formed. We interviewed him, prepared a report and then we recommended the case. We expect more such students in the future."

This reflects the flexibility and philosophy that IITGn follows. Amit Prashant, interim director of IITGn, said, "One of the philosophies we follow is that each and every student is important."

Talking about Parab he added, "He was excited about Mathematics and wanted to have solid background in Math. We took the proposal to the senate to create this programme. His interest compelled us to take the revolutionary step.

"We should encourage diversity of interests. It is the combination of engineering and sciences that we want to promote because that brings the element of diversity in training, interest and the career choices. While we respect all the traditional ways, we want to encourage students to study whatever they are passionate about." Prashant added.

Title: Double the joy

Source: Ahmedabad Mirror (Pg. No. 7)

Link:

<https://ahmedabadmirror.indiatimes.com/entertainment/hip-n-hap/double-the-joy/articleshow/70401933.cms>

Date: 27-07-2019



Student Amogh Parab with Amit Prashant, Interim director of IITGn