

IIM plans grand convocation, Mihan campus inauguration as Covid curbs ease

TNN | Feb 21, 2022, 04.37 AM IST

Nagpur: After having to keep it on hold for two years, the Indian Institute of Management (IIM) has planned a grand ceremony to award degrees to its approximately 450 students from the 2018-20 and 2019-21 batches in March. If the ceremony date is fixed for April, then the current batch (2020-22) will also be awarded degrees along with their seniors.

While other universities and institutes in the region went ahead with online convocation ceremonies due to Covid restrictions, IIM seemed to have waited to ensure the students don't miss out the once-in-a-lifetime event.

The convocation ceremony will also coincide with the inauguration of its new sprawling campus at Mihan. The B-School has already shifted from its transit campus at VNIT. The IIM had planned to complete the permanent campus by 2020 but the work was stalled due to the pandemic. The chief guest is yet to be decided for the grand function.

Built at a cost of around Rs650 crore, the state-of-the-art green building is set to bring in a lot of new activities and increase the institute's intake, besides the addition of new courses. The next-generation IIM was established in the city in 2015 under the mentorship of IIM Ahmedabad. Within two years, the B-school was on its own.

IIM Nagpur (IIM-N) director Bhimaraya Metri said, "We are planning to hold the previous two convocations and inauguration ceremonies together. The current batch too is soon graduating. Our plan was to hold the inauguration by March first week, but then the current batch will not be eligible as their last term would still be going on. In case the event date is finalized for April, all three batches will be awarded degrees together."

The Mihan campus is second to get completed under Metri. IIM Trichy's campus also came up under Metri when he was the director there, before moving to IIM Nagpur two years ago.

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