

IIM, Nagpur's 8th batch has 43% women students

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As the students of the eighth batch of MBA walked into the Indian Institute of Management (IIM), Nagpur, campus on Friday, the institute took a big step towards gender equality. Bettering its previous numbers, the 2022-24 MBA batch has 42.8% girl students.

This is the first time that IIM-N, which came into existence in 2015, has achieved such high gender ratio. The percentage of girl students rose by almost 20 compared to the last batch. The 2021-23 batch, with a total strength of 257, had about 23% or 60 girl students. Till Friday morning, 257 students had registered for the MBA programme, IIM, Nagpur, officials told Lokmat Times. Of them, 110 are girls. Officials said the admission number may go up by Monday.

ENCOURAGING NUMBERS

Year	Total	Women	Men
2019-20	121	20	101
2020-22	222	45	177
2021-23	257	60	197
2022-24*	257	110	147



*As per provisional list. Final list to be released on Monday.

So far students from 26 States and Union Territories have registered for 2022-24 batch. "The percentage of girl students has been steadily increasing over the years. The mindset of the society is slowly changing, which is a good sign. Earlier, parents used to be hesitant to send girls to other cities for studies," said Bhimaraya Metri, director, IIM, Nagpur.

Though the number of girl students was less, they always excelled in academics. "One thing I have observed over the years is that despite being less in numbers, the ratio changes

when we look at the toppers of our institute. During the convocation ceremony of last batch held a few days back, most of the gold medals were secured by the girl students," Metri added.

The high number of girls bodes well for the institute that has been working towards empowering women through InFED — the startup incubation and entrepreneurship development centre. Since its inception, InFED has successfully enabled many women entrepreneurs of the region to graduate from being a startup to successful business.