

IIT Bhubaneswar holds exams online with full attendance

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NEW DELHI: Even as prime IITs ditched the ultimate yr exams and an growing variety of exams have been cancelled in view of the prevailing Covid-19 outbreak, IIT-Bhubaneswar confirmed the best way by not solely conducting the endsemester exams online, however guaranteeing 100% attendance.

This second technology IIT customised the online examination system in order that the examination may very well be carried out in a complete kind with none compromises, but guaranteeing that college students should not put in danger. The finish semester examinations have been carried out online between June 24 to 30, for the ultimate yr topics the place a complete of 526 (which 100% of the batch measurement) college students from BTech, twin diploma, MSc, MTech and PhD participated.

Even although they have been referred to as ‘online exams’, the requirement of the web was restricted to query paper entry, reply paper importing and invigilating the contributors. As per IIT officers, the commercially out there methods for online examinations are usually designed to carry laptop-primarily based assessments and never for standard examinations in a complete kind and have sure limitations.

The conceptual and architectural design of the system was supplied by institute director Professor R V Raja Kumar and the system was developed by laptop and IT providers cell of the institute. The institute put in place a assist desk which might work together, attend to and repair issues like these associated to devices and web bandwidth of the scholars in the course of the exams.

Kumar, defined: “One of the challenges faced in the system design is to provide fairness of access to students who have a lot of variation in available gadgets and internet connectivity. Since the answering can also be done with pen and paper, the requirement of the internet is reduced to question paper access, answer paper uploading and invigilation. The institute provided multiple options to facilitate the students to take the test with fairness, though they have different levels of technology accesses (single to two gadgets),” and added “Though the institute scheduled two examinations to facilitate the students acquire facilities in case they do not have, all (100%) of them have availed the first opportunity and could take the exams successfully. In this system a conventional examination hall is made virtual, distributed across the personal environment of each student at their own home and the control also partially depends on the cooperation from each student. Our students cooperated well, they are highly technology savvy, participated in the examinations with seriousness and helped the institute in conducting their examinations in good standards.”

The institute put in place a assist desk which might work together, attend to and repair the issues equivalent to these associated to devices and web bandwidth of the scholars in the course of the exams making it profitable for 100% of the scholars.

PR Sahu, Dean (educational) mentioned: “The examinations could be held without any compromise on the regulations despite the pandemic situation. The one change made is that the duration of the online exam was reduced to two hours from the usual three hours and accordingly the weightage to 40% in place of 50%, as recommended by our Senate.”