

PLACEMENT TRENDS

# No slowdown effect in major engg institutes

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**G**lobal economic slowdown hasn't affected placement drives in major City engineering institutes or colleges. According to students and placement cell officers, the rate of recruitment through campus drives have increased as compared to last academic session. In fact, the highest and average pay packages being offered to students have also seen substantial hike this year.

The first phase of campus recruitment has been completed in major institutes, including IIT Bhubaneswar. The second phase will commence from the second week of January at IIT Bhubaneswar. The institute will conduct the placements in the second phase till the end of the current academic session in May. "So, far the scenario has been much better than last year. Already, 72 to 75 per cent of our students have already been placed in phase I itself," said IIT Bhubaneswar director, professor RV Rajakumar. Not just subsidiaries and e-commerce firms, but core companies have conducted recruitment at IIT. Multi-national conglomerates like Microsoft, Amazon, General Electric, Goldman Sachs,



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— Professor RV Rajakumar, IIT Bhubaneswar director

HSBC and Samsung R&D have also hired students from IIT Bhubaneswar. "We don't see any slowdown," he added.

The average salary at IIT has increased from ₹12 lakh per annum to ₹15 lakh as compared to placements conducted in December, 2018. The highest salary offered at IIT this year was ₹43 lakh per annum. By the end of December 2018, only 55 per cent students were placed at various companies from the institute.

Similar statistics was marked at the recruitment cell of ITER engineering college under SOA University. Around 83 per cent of the students from all streams have been placed, as claimed by the institute. The recruitment drive commenced from the last week of June in 2019 for the students of 2020 batch.



The average pay package offered to ITER students is ₹4.8 lakh per annum. The highest was offered by Amazon at ₹18 lakh per annum. Information Technology giants like Cognizant, Infosys, Wipro, IBM and Capgemini have conducted their placement tests at the institute, besides other firms like Voltas and Deolitte. The institute will continue the drives till April or May.

What has appeared from the placements this year across colleges, the students of computer science and electronics and communications have bagged the maximum

number of jobs. For instance, around 90 per cent students of computer science have bagged jobs so far at IIT. The institute claims that the maiden batch of M. Tech in computer science has registered 100 per cent placement already. "The placement per cent for computer science is 85 per cent, followed by electronics and communication students at 70 to 75 per cent," said the placement officer at SOA, Sujit Das.

The focus of recruiters have been on specific skill sets this year. Across colleges, they opted for students with knowledge in machine learning, artificial intelligence, algorithm, data structure and analytics. After conducting written and online tests on basics of data structure, the qualifying students were made to compete in group discussions and appear for personal interviews.