

**CAMPUS CRUNCH**

# HOOKED TO HOBBIES

This week, we bring you the canteen and campus life of IIT Bhubaneswar students

Life is more than just cracking IITs—a thought that resonates on the campus of IIT, Bhubaneswar. Step inside its canteen or stroll through the campus, you will know it yourself! After putting in an herculean effort for at least two years to get into a top-notch institute, the students bounce back to the 'mainstream.' Their unidirectional focus undergoes transformation to open up a whole new world of music, dance, sports and other extra-curricular activities.

## SPECIAL OVER

This year, the students organised 12 hostel games for the inmates of Mahanadi Boys Hostel. From PUBG, virtual Fifa tournaments to basketball, volleyball, football and cricket, they play it all. And, the sports are also a part of the institute's canteen culture. As the rules for each are mostly drafted in the mess. For instance, they have mended the rules of cricket to suit their requirements. On campus, they play cricket with soft tennis ball all night. The sport has only eight overs and nine players in each team. "We have included a special over in the game. The batting team challenges the opponent of scoring certain number of runs in a particular over. If they achieve the target, double runs are added to the score board. But, if they fail, it's a duck," explained the sports secretary, Saif Ali Khan.

## TUMMY TALKS

The mess at IIT Bhubaneswar specialises in Hyderabad Biryani—going by what students said! Every second student on the campus loves the spicy Biryani served on specific days. "The menu is decided by the student's body. We included Hyderabad Biryani to the menu. It is the authentic Hyderabad Biryani! You will not find the same quality elsewhere in Bhubaneswar," said the General Secretary of the students.



Students having fun after classes at the Community Centre | IRFANA



Bharath, the rapper

## RAP RHETORIC

Interestingly, craze for rapping is trending in the canteens and on-campus hang-out zones. The 'rap-turous' success of Ranveer's Gully Boy has given the on-campus rappers a kick! And, the fun begins after classes in the evening. The conversations about music, rapping, dramatics and dance, of course, start over a cup of tea and a plate of maggi or chicken pakodas. The talks, then, roll over to the community centre. It's the liveliest zone of the Jatni campus. Often, packed with students rehearsing street-plays, hip-hop dance performances or jamming new tracks. There's also an indoor badminton court. Last week, when The City Express visited IIT Bhubaneswar campus, we met Bharath—an IITian, who is a rapper by heart! With his friends around, he was busy rapping his original composition—'Tu hi jaan meri, Tu hi shaan meri, Tu hi tu hai bas, Bas ek bar toh has.' Inspired by Honey Singh, Bharath took to rapping in school. But, his passion intensified on the campus. So, who's the most popular rapper among IITians in Bhubaneswar? And, a group of 30 students shouted—'Divine.' For them, he is the poster boy of Indian hip-hop. Dancers on the campus are also performing to the tunes of Divine's rap. Like students of other institutes, IITians have their own list of stress-buster songs, mostly drawn from Bollywood. Latest hits like 'Ankh Marey, Zingat,' and 'Apna Time Ayega' are the most-played tracks in the canteen and community centre.



PHOTOS: IRFANA

Students attending a jam session at the Community Centre | EXPRESS

