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Two Pune boys among top 50 JEE (A) ranks

1,200 Pupils From The City Make The Cut

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Pune: Anuj Srivastava and Arjun Kashettiwar emerged as the probable toppers with first and second ranks in the city in the joint entrance examination (JEE) Advanced results for admission to the Indian Institutes of Technology (IIT). They were among the top 50 students in the country.

About 1.55 lakh students appeared for JEE Advanced on May 20 across India of whom 1,200 students are estimated to be from Pune.

Durgesh Mangeshkar, director of IIT Pratishthan, said, "This is the first time in 58 years that the IIT exam was administered online and 40% of the marks were of the new pattern of numerical value questions. The accuracy required in numerical value questions was 25 times more than the accuracy needed in Integer type questions pattern which was prevalent from 2006 till 2017. These peculiar aspects have caused about 12% drop in marks required for a particular rank this year as compared to 2017. The number of ranks declared this year has been drastically reduced to almost one-third from 50,000 in 2017 to 18,138 in 2018."

IIT-P had ten students securing ranks under 2000 from all categories put together. The topper from this coaching class was Advait Padavala with a merit list rank of 428 and Ayush Dahale with a rank of 1942.

From Bakliwal Tutorials, as many as 24 students received ranks in the top 2000. Vaibhav Bakliwal, founder of the coaching class said. Arnav Datar was the top ranked student from Bakliwal Tutorials who figured 200th in the merit list.

The top two students from Pune, Anuj Srivastava, ranked 25 and Arjun Kashettiwar, ranked 33 did their JEE Advanced 2018 result shocker on Sunday. The drop in the number of qualified candidates from 50,455 last year to 18,138 by maintaining last exam's qualifying score has raised doubts whether there are enough students to fill all the seats at the premier Indian Institutes of Technology.

Pranav Goyal from Panchkula district of Haryana topped the exam scoring 337/360, while Meenal Parakh of Kota, securing the all India rank of 6, is the topper among girls. Rishi Agrawal (AIR 8) topped the IIT-Bombay zone. And in a first for JEE (A), two candidates from the physically challenged category have made it to the elite club: Lay Jain (AIR 9) and Neel Gupta (AIR 10).

ON TOP OF THE WORLD

ALL-INDIA TOPPERS

AIR 1 Pranav Goyal

337/360

AIR 2 Sahil Jain

AIR 3 Kalash Gupta

AIR 4 Pawan Goyal

AIR 5 Mavuri Manohar

AIR 6 Meenal Parakh (female topper)

318/360

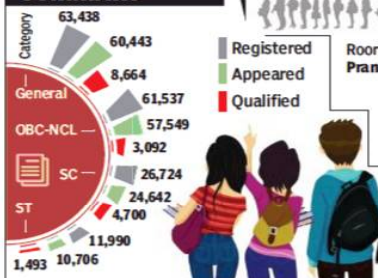
AIR 7 KVR Hemant Kumar Chodipalli

AIR 8 Rishi Agrawal

AIR 9 Lay Jain (OBC-NCL-Pwd)

AIR 10 Neel Aryan Gupta (SC-PWD)

CATEGORY-WISE SUMMARY



Maximum aggregate marks: 360 (180 each in Paper-1 and Paper-2)
 Maximum marks in Physics: 120 (60 each in Paper-1 and Paper-2)
 Maximum marks in Chemistry: 120 (60 each in Paper-1 and Paper-2)
 Maximum marks in Mathematics: 120 (60 each in Paper-1 and Paper-2)

"I was expecting to score closer to what I have eventually scored and I am extremely delighted with my performance. I will be taking up computer science at IIT Bombay"

Arjun Kashettiwar | AIR 33



Students celebrate their success with Vaibhav Bakliwal on Sunday

Graphic: Aamir Shaikh | Pic: Mandar Deshpande

IIT ZONE-WISE TOPPERS



ROAD AHEAD

- Registration for Architecture Aptitude Test (AAT): **June 10 to June 11 5pm**
- Final frozen keys available at www.jeeadv.ac.in
- Schedule for joint admission (josaa.nic.in):
 - June 15, 10 am** | Registration & choice filling starts
 - June 19, 5 pm** | Display of mock seat allocation based on choices filled on June 18
 - June 24, 5 pm** | Display of mock seat allocation based on choices filled on June 19
 - June 25** | Candidate registration and choice filling ends

A year after extra marks, result sees 64% drop in qualified candidates

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A merit list of qualified candidates, one third compared to last year, was JEE Advanced 2018 result shocker on Sunday. The drop in the number of qualified candidates from 50,455 last year to 18,138 by maintaining last exam's qualifying score has raised doubts whether there are enough students to fill all the seats at the premier Indian Institutes of Technology.

Pranav Goyal from Panchkula district of Haryana topped the exam scoring 337/360, while Meenal Parakh of Kota, securing the all India rank of 6, is the topper among girls. Rishi Agrawal (AIR 8) topped the IIT-Bombay zone. And in a first for JEE (A), two candidates from the physically challenged category have made it to the elite club: Lay Jain (AIR 9) and Neel Gupta (AIR 10).

"This is a happy and surprising situation where the two boys have overcome so many odds to make it to the top of the ranks card," said ML Sharma, JEE (A) chairman from IIT Roorkee.

Music, films helped 16-yr-old top exam

Pranav Goyal from Panchkula, who secured the all India rank 1, has his eyes set on IIT-Bombay. "I want to pursue computer science as I have been interested in developing programmes," said the 16-year-old boy. He attributes his success to maintaining balance between study hours and breaks. "I studied for five to six hours every-day. I took regular breaks," said Pranav, who scored 97.2% in class XII. "Punjabi music was like meditation for Pranav. He watched movies, read books and spend time with family," said his mother Mamta Goyal. —Preeti Biswas

Asked about the fall in number of students making the cut, he said that as the minimum qualifying scores were already predefined, the IITs found that fewer candidates had scored 10% in each subject and 35%

in aggregate. "We have qualified 1.6 times the number of candidates to the seats available in all the IITs," said professor Shalabh S, JEE Advanced chairman from IIT Kanpur, the organizing school for the entrance exam. The IITs have 11,279 seats in all. A lot of students who don't get the top ranks or seats in courses of their choice drop out, so education experts have expressed apprehensions about filling all the seats in 23 IITs this year.

The minimum subject-wise score is 12 for open category with an aggregate of 126 and merely 8,664 candidates made the cut as compared to 23,390 last year. It's the same story in OBC-non creamy layer, SC and ST categories. "Clearly, the 18 marks that were given as bonus last year for ambiguous questions pumped up the number of students who qualified," said Praveen Tyagi, owner IIT Pace Academy.

Of the 18,138 candidates who qualified, 3,834 fall under the preparatory course list. This is a one-year bridge tutorial held at IITs to bring academically weaker students on par with the other candidates.

Will more girls join IITs this year?

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Will more girls join the hallowed IITs? Meenal Parakh, with the all India rank 6, is among the few who has made it to the elite club in the JEE Advanced.

This year, a total of 2,076 (12%) girls have qualified, a 14% drop from last year's 7,137. Almost 10% of them have qualified from Maharashtra: 209, with 71 of them from Mumbai.

This year, the IITs, in a bid to improve the gender balance on their campuses, have added 800 supernumerary seats to raise the share of females. "We will, as promised to the HRD ministry, have 14% girls in each branch of every IIT. I think the girls have done quite well this year," said M L Sharma, JEE (A) chairman from IIT Roorkee.

IIT Kanpur director Abhay Karandikar explained that the IITs would first fill the supernumerary seats set aside for females and if there are more girls who have qualified, they too will be admitted. "All girls will be picked only on merit," he added.

The gender gap is not just being acknowledged by the IITs. Some of the newer institutes like IIT Mandi, set up in 2009, offers all first year girl students a scholarship that includes free boarding and lodging and a stipend of Rs 1,000 per month for 10 months.

3 foreign students in the reckoning

In a bid to internationalise their campus, IITs conduct the entrance exam in six foreign countries. While 881 candidates registered for the exam, 36 appeared and only 3 have qualified to join the IITs. In case of O.Cs (Overseas Citizens of India), 55 of the 197 who appeared qualified and of the 35 PIOs (Persons of Indian Origin) who took JEE (A), nine have got the qualifying score. Last year, seven foreign nationals had also qualified.

Delhi zone tops

IIT-Delhi accounted for the largest number of candidates who have qualified from the northern states. Not only have 5,072 or almost 28% of students who have made the cut come from here, but even among the top 10 ranks, five are from the Delhi zone. One in every three students in the top 100 ranks is from this zone and the largest count of top-500 rankers also come from the Delhi zone (152). At the third spot is IIT-B zone with 2,936 candidates who made the cut.