



BITS Pilani goes to GOA



Goa campus- unmatched excellence

Nestling in the lap of verdant hills and overlooking the Zuari River, the BITS Pilani-Goa Campus sprawls over 188 acres of land. The location of this campus is unique in its scenic beauty and panoramic view of picturesque surroundings encompassing Zuari River, hillocks, waterways, forests and landscape.

The Campus is located at about 25 kms south of Panaji, 10 kms west of Margaon and 5.5 kms east of Goa Airport and houses several modern buildings. From the infrastructural perspective, it is perhaps the best Campus in the country. The administrative buildings, classrooms, and auditorium - all are of a very high standard. The entire building excluding hostels is air-conditioned. In addition, the entire campus has been provided with a fibre optic networking with Internet connection to every hostel room, every faculty cubicle, all classrooms and faculty houses. At present the campus has about 1200 students and by the time the first batch of students graduate in another two years, it will attain a student-strength of 2500. Consequently, the total strength of all the three campuses of BITS-Pilani, Dubai and Goa- will rise to 8000. All the salient features of the BITS, Pilani system are being replicated in the Goa Campus.



**Prime Minister,
Dr. Manmohan Singh
formally inaugurates
the Goa Campus on
06 May, 2006**

How it started

Far from the madding crowd, in the quiet hamlet of Pilani, 200 km west of Delhi is located the Birla Institute of Technology and Science, popularly known as BITS, Pilani. An oasis in the state of Rajasthan, this educational campus is not only elegant with its neatly laid out roads, lawns and gardens but also vibrant with the spirit of some of the brightest young minds coming from its culturally diverse regions. Founded in 1964 it is engaged in the exciting task of producing some of the country's finest engineering, science and arts graduates.

BITS, Pilani as it is known today is the tiny seed sown way back in 1901 in the form of a small Pathshala to educate Shri.G.D.Birla and Shri. R.D.Birla. With the passage of time, this tiny primary school developed into three separate colleges of Arts, Science, Commerce & Pharmacy and Engineering under the Birla Education Trust. It was the visionary Shri.G.D.Birla's sacred ambition to establish a modern university of international standard to foster the scientific temper. Thus the then existing three colleges were merged to constitute the present institute called the Birla Institute of Technology and Science, recognized as a deemed university under the UGC Act and started functioning in 1964 with late Shri.G.D.Birla as its Chairman.

Dr.K.K.Birla who took over as the Chairman of BITS in 1983 and later as Chancellor of the Institute, was deeply involved and closely associated with his visionary father in running both the earlier Birla colleges and the current institute of BITS. It was Dr.Birla, who six years ago decided to increase the student-strength from 2500 to 4000 at a cost of Rs. 30 crores.

Campus extension

In the year 2000, a new campus was established Dubai and named BITS, Pilani - Dubai Campus. Since there are many expatriates settled in Dubai,

this was an attempt to increase their access to a good educational system. Today, BITS Pilani-Dubai Campus offers five engineering degree programmes and is planning to introduce a few more programmes over the years to come. At present Dubai campus is running successfully with a student-strength of 900 that is expected to cross 1500 soon.

The next major milestone is setting up the Goa campus with an outlay of Rs.130 crore. This project got completed in 2004. BITS Pilani is forging ahead further to disseminate its educational excellence by starting its plans to open up its third campus in Hyderabad in a sprawling area of 200 acres.

A unique admission process

All admissions to BITS are based purely on merit and on an all India basis. Since 2005, admissions are made based on a computer based online admission test called "BIT-SAT". This test is a pioneering effort of the Institute and unique in India. Conducted for about two months using high-end secure technology this test provides candidates the choice of place, date and time. The results are displayed immediately after the students complete the test. In 2005, the test was conducted at 14 centres across the country. About 48,000 students wrote the test competing for 1400 seats (800 for Pilani campus and 600 for Goa campus). The Institute also gives importance to the performance in the board examinations by making a minimum requirement for admission of at least 80% aggregate in Mathematics, Physics and Chemistry with a minimum of 60% in each subject. Board toppers are offered direct admission and seventeen Board toppers joined the Institute in 2005.

Innovative educational process

An integrated approach

and modular curriculum:

BITS offers three tiers of education: the Integrated First Degree Programmes, Higher Degree Programmes and Doctoral Degree Programmes. All First Degree Programmes share certain common elements across various disciplines. While the Pilani campus offers seventeen first degree programmes and thirteen higher degree programmes, the Goa Campus at present offers eleven first degree programmes- five each in the Engineering and the Science disciplines and one in Information Systems.

Flexibilities: Among the many flexibilities of the system, the most popular one is the dual degree scheme under which it is possible for the student to work for and complete concurrently two first degree programmes within a reasonable period of time. Any student admitted to Science programmes is almost assured of getting a dual degree with a second degree to be picked out of a range of professional programmes. In addition, students from one discipline can take courses from other disciplines as electives. What's more, the students also have the freedom of picking their own schedule, lecture hours and faculty of their choice.

Chancellor's Message

On this joyous occasion of the formal inauguration of BITS, Pilani - Goa Campus by our Honourable Prime Minister, Dr. Manmohan Singh, one can justifiably feel proud of the great achievements of BITS, Pilani, a leading technological university founded by my late father, Shri Ghanshyam Dasji Birla, and its contribution to the enrichment of knowledge capital of the nation. Since 1983, I have been the Chairman of the Institute and in 2003 became its Chancellor. However, I along with my younger brother, Basant Kumar was deeply involved and closely associated with my visionary father in running BITS, Pilani since its inception in 1964. The Institute has grown into a leading technological university of the nation. Realizing that the Pilani campus could not meet the admission demands from the ever-increasing number of aspiring candidates, we decided to create an extension campus at Goa, which will replicate all the salient features of BITS educational system. We are committed to make this campus at par with Pilani in all its educational achievements. We feel that this humble contribution of ours will mark a significant step towards spreading quality education of a world class order. With the inauguration of BITS, Pilani - Goa Campus by our Honourable Prime Minister, Dr. Manmohan Singhji, and his good wishes, I am sure the Campus will grow from strength to strength.



Dr. K.K. Birla

Continuous internal evaluation:

The Institute follows semester scheme based on modular courses. A student's degree requirement is spelt out in terms of the number of modules that need to be cleared. The evaluation is internal and done throughout the semester. The assessment is based on class work, periodical quizzes, tests, home assignments, projects, group discussions etc., leading up to a comprehensive examination held at the end of the semester. The evaluation process is so transparent that the assessed answer papers are finally returned to the students.

Campus placement: Almost all students get placed through campus interviews. About 70 reputed companies visit the campus every year, including MNCs and well known Indian companies, such as, Microsoft, Google, Cisco, Intel, Oracle, Adobe, Escort, BPCL, TVS Motors, Trilogry, Samsung, Wipro, TCS, Infosys, IBM Global, Honeywell, National Instruments, Tata Motors, L&T, IOCL, Ashley Laurent, Morgan Stanley, Dr.reddy's Lab, Wockhardt, etc. While the range of pay varies between Rs. Rs.2.5 lacs to 11.00 lacs per annum, the average salary for any engineering student comes to around Rs.4.00 lacs. per annum.

University-industry linkages

Practice School: BITS, Pilani is perhaps the only institution of its kind that has implemented a blend of academic and industrial experience in the form of Practice School (PS). PS is not only an integral part of BITS curriculum, but also imbibes in it some unique features of the Institute's edu-

Some Recent Research Activities

- The Pharmacy faculty of BITS has recently developed a 'novel controlled release tablet of 'Aceclofenac', a non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drug, which is used for the management of arthritis, joint pains, analgesia and inflammatory diseases launched by IPCA Laboratory in the market..
- The Biotechnology group developed a biosensor that will detect arsenic contents in liquids such as water. This will prove useful to the community to get clean water for drinking purposes.
- The Solar Energy Area faculty has developed a system for assessing energy demands and worked out a strategy for implementation in Rajasthan.
- The computer science group has done extensive work on developing a new protocol for Internet delivery of information called Internet Protocol version-6 (IPv6).
- BITS, Pilani has also taken up R&D Projects on Rainwater harvesting and Desert Development Technologies.

Campus Facilities:

- Meticulously designed fully-residential campuses at Pilani and Goa.
- Ideal environment for curricular and co-curricular aspirations.
- 65,000 sq. ft. library in Pilani- one of the largest libraries in Asia with more than 2,00,000 volumes of books and journals, access to 4000 online journals.
- 50000 sq. feet library at Goa with several reading halls, exhibition rooms, digital library for Internet reference, and a large area for book storage.
- Solar hot water system in all the hostels.
- Modern shopping complex, state-of-the-art gymnasium and medical centre and hospital.
- 100 MBPS network connectivity.

