

NIRF



Issue

The sixth edition of the NIRF has been launched by the Ministry of Education. IIT-Madras, IISc-Bangalore, and IIT-Bombay have topped the rankings.

Background

Higher education institutions (HEIs) were for the first time ranked by the government under the National Institute Ranking Framework or NIRF.

Details

- Before the emergence of NIRF, higher education institutions were ranked by private magazines and government did not have such a mechanism.
- During the initial years, the NIRF were optional but later it was made compulsory for all government-run educational institutions.
- 6,000 institutions have participated in NIRF ranking this time. This is about double the number of institutes that participated in 2016.

Parameters used

- Teaching
- Learning and resources
- Research and professional practices
- Graduation outcomes
- Outreach and inclusivity
- Perception

Categories

NIRF ranks out best institutions across 11 categories that include overall national ranking, universities, engineering, college, medical, management, pharmacy, law, architecture, dental and research.

Need for ranking Higher Education Institutes

- The government was upset with low numbers in international rankings such as QS World University Rankings and the Times Higher Education World University Ranking.
- This was attributed to subjective perception score which was given by select group of people. A domestic ranking was conceptualized to negate the concerns.

The Chinese example

- When China faced a similar problem, it introduced the Shanghai Rankings, done by the Shanghai Jiao Tong University.
- While the Chinese rankings were international in character, Indian NIRF is domestic. There are plans to eventually make it international.

Way ahead

The current NIRF were ranking only domestic higher education institutes. The government is planning to use it for all developing countries.

NOTES

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