

New institutions outrank old powerhouses in Times list

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Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore

NEW DELHI: New institutions have edged past the traditional IITs in the [Times Higher Education \(THE\) World University Rankings 2019](#) on Wednesday.

The country is led again by the Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore, which retains its position in the 251-300 band. But in an impressive debut entry, the nine-year-old Indian Institute of Technology, Indore (IIT-Indore) became India's second highest-ranked university — and a global top 400 institution — with its scores buoyed by research volume and research impact. IIT-Indore overtook IIT-Bombay, which slipped from the 351-400 to 401-500 banding.

Another surprise this year has been Jagadguru Sri Shivarathreeswara University, Mysore, which is among the top five Indian institutes and is ranked among the top 500 global universities.

Globally, Oxford University claimed first position for the third consecutive year, also topping the list for its the research pillar (volume, income and reputation). Cambridge retained the second spot, while Stanford in the US holds steady in third.

India again increased its presence, claiming 49 places this year, up from 42 — the fifth best-represented nation in the world, but a majority of institutions either stagnated or declined in the 2019 table.

THE WORLD UNIVERSITY RANKINGS 2019

INDIAN INSTITUTES IN TOP 600		
	2019 rank	2018 rank
IISc	251-300	251-300
IIT Indore	351-400	NR
IIT Bombay	401-500	351-400
IIT Roorkee	401-500	501-603
Jagadguru Sri Shivarathreeswara University	401-500	NR

WORLD TOP 5		
	2019 rank	2018 rank
University of Oxford	1	1
University of Cambridge	2	2
Stanford University	3	3
Massachusetts Institute of Technology	4	5
California Institute of Technology	5	3

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In a statement issued to THE, Pradeep Mathur, director of IIT Indore, said: “Our efforts in making research the focus of the institute is now reflected in the form of citation and other impact metrics of research. We continue to make research the focus of all our programmes which is why you see even our undergraduate students are active participants of research projects and collaborations within India and internationally too.” Among the previously ranked Indian institutions, Amrita University saw an impressive rise in the 2019 table—from the 801-1,000 band to 601-800 this year.

Phil Baty, editorial director of Global Rankings for THE, said: “India is bursting with innovation and ambition. The nation has serious potential to grow into a leading player in global higher education. But while it increases its presence again in this year's table, the majority of its universities remained immobile, struggling against increased global competition. Sustained investment, a continued drive to attract leading global talent, and a strengthened international outlook will be key to boosting its global reputation and research influence.”

The United States remains the most-represented nation in the table, with 172 institutions, up from 157. However, marked improvement comes from China, with Tsinghua University now its new number one, supplanting the National University of Singapore as Asia's top institution.

THE WORLD UNIVERSITY RANKINGS 2019 HIGHLIGHTS

- Indian Institute of Science retains lead, but IIT Indore becomes India's second highest-ranked university in impressive debut entry
- US still dominates definitive global listing - now in its 15th year - signs of stagnation cut across Europe, US and Australia as global competition intensifies
- Oxford claims top position for third year, Cambridge retains second, but Japan surpasses UK as second most-represented nation
- China's new number one becomes top in Asia: Overtakes New York University and London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE), surpasses Princeton, Yale and MIT for research
- Tsinghua University becomes mainland China's new number one - and supplants the National University of Singapore as Asia's top institution
- China is fourth most-represented globally in the table, with 72 universities (up from 63) - and retains seven in the elite top 200
 - Yale is the highest riser in the top 20, scaling four places to join the top 10, in eighth rank
 - India increases its presence again in this year's table, up from 42 - the fifth best-represented nation in the world
 - The annual ranking lists more than 1,250 higher education institutions globally, up from just over 1,100 last year, and features 86 countries

TOP COMMENT

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