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कुलपति  
VICE-CHANCELLOR



काशी हिन्दू विश्वविद्यालय  
BANARAS HINDU UNIVERSITY  
(Established by Parliament by Notification No. 225 of 1918)  
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VC/3835

February 12, 2008

Subject: Upgradation of IT-BHU to IIT-BHU.

*Dear Agarwal Sir,*

In the 21<sup>st</sup> century, the knowledge based scientific communities are going to rule the world. This will require a huge mass of properly educated work force in all domains of knowledge, particularly in the areas of agriculture, engineering, medicine, management etc. The Government of India is aware of this need and has accepted the role of technical education in nation building as well as for global competitiveness. The recent initiative of the Government for setting up more central universities, IISERs, NITs, IITs and IIMs, is a positive step in this direction. With proper autonomy and governance mechanism these institutions shall be able to maintain highest quality of education and contribute effectively in nation building. In this context it is heartening to note that several of such institutions including an IIT are planned to be instituted in Uttar Pradesh also.

Institute of Technology, is a constituent unit of the Banaras Hindu University. It has maintained its national character since inception. The admission to earlistwhile colleges BENCO (1919), MIN&MET(1923) and TECHN(1932), (all three amalgamated into the Institute) was on merit basis with population wise quota for each state/union territory. After joining the JEE system w.e.f. 1972, it has further got strengthened. The Institute is getting the brightest group of students from all over the country. It is in no way inferior to any of the IITs on many counts. Recent survey of Out Look has rated IT-BHU # 7 out of 10 top colleges where as Dataquest ranked it as # 5. Current Science rated IT-BHU as # 3 on the basis of its research output and MHRD sponsored World Bank survey rated it next to IISc, Bangalore. Several other agencies and individuals have rated it equivalent to or better than IITs. Infrastructure wise (land area, faculty and students strength, etc.) IT-BHU is comparable to or better than many of the IITs. Two recent committees setup by MHRD, New Delhi (Joshi Committee and Anandkrishnan Committee) have already recommend for the upgradation of the Institute.

On many other counts also IT-BHU (IIT-BHU) would be a better place to impart holistic education than other IITs. Proximity of the other Departments/Faculties of a great university provides ample opportunities to students to interact with teachers and students from other faculties, to learn newer things/subjects – mountaineering, music, painting, etc., and to grow into a complete human being rather than becoming merely a hard core engineer/technologist. This advantage is not their with the students of other IITs existing on stand alone basis.

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The vision of the former President of India, Dr. A.P.J. Kalam is to make India a developed nation within next 20 years. This calls for greater role by the Institutes of national importance such as IITs, IIMs, etc. The Institute of Technology, Banaras Hind University is fully competent to play a similar role if it is granted the status and autonomy like the IITs. Further the Institute being located in the industrially back-ward part of the country is in a better position to contribute to the development of Eastern UP, Western Bihar and adjoining areas of MP, Jharkahnd and Chhatisgarh. Thus, the Institute of Technology of the Banaras Hindu University would be an ideal Institution to be converted to an IIT with least amount of expenditure within the shortest possible time.

Once the above said autonomy and status are granted to the Institute of Technology, BHU and it is upgradated to the level of IITs, it can be easily declared as an Institute of Technology of National importance.

The Institute after upgradation to the level of IITs could be run on the pattern of IITs with only one difference at the level of Chairman, Board of Governors, which could be ex-officio the Vice-Chancellor of the University.

I am enclosing herewith a few relevant papers/reports relating to above for your information.

*with regards,*

Yours Sincerely,

  
(Panjab Singh)

Encl : As above

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