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## NEWS

### Meet on BASU status

*A convention was held to discuss whether BESU should be given the status of an Institute of National Importance*

#### Express News Service

**Kolkata, October 12:** A convention was held at the Bengal Engineering and Science University, Shibpur today for drawing up a resolution keeping in mind the opinion of reputed personalities who participated in the convention on whether BESU should be crowned with the status of an Institute of National Importance. Sabyasachi Sengupta, former registrar of the university and the moderator of the convention, said: "A resolution was passed saying all sections of the society are unanimous that Shibpur BE College, if it has to survive in this dynamic society, should be given the status of an Institute of National Importance and mainly that of an Indian Institute of Engineering Science and Technology."

Eminent academicians and well-known personalities took part in the programme. Soumitra Banerjee, professor of electrical engineering, IIT-KGP; Siddharth Sengupta from Tata Consultancy Services, Mumbai; Sudhanshu Shekhar Chakraborty, managing director, CES, Delhi and Gautam Chatterjee, chairman of Confederation of Indian Industries were present.

The need for such a status Advertisement

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came up after Atal Behari Vajpayee in his 2003 Independence Day speech declared that seven institutions from all over the country would be given the IIT status.

With respect to his statement, the S K Joshi Committee was set up which went through the details of 152 institutions all over the country and selected seven of them. BESU ranked third in the list. The state government was not willing to let go BESU from its control and hence the delay.

Moreover, it has been found that a saturation point has been reached in engineering at the graduate level and proper post-graduate engineering needed to be developed.

“Hence, the status becomes necessary for the development of proper post-graduate engineering programmes,” said Abhigyan Bera, spokesperson of BESU students union.



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