



NIRF Rankings 2024

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Why in News?

The [National Institutional Ranking Framework \(NIRF\) rankings 2024](#), announced by the Union Ministry of Education (MoE), has once again highlighted the leading institutions in India's higher education landscape.

What are the Key Highlights of NIRF 2024?

- **Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Madras:** Maintained its **top position in the 'Overall' and 'Engineering' categories** for six and nine consecutive years, respectively. The institute also retained its **second rank in the 'Research Institutions' and 'Innovations' categories.**
- **Indian Institute of Science (IISc), Bengaluru:** Continued its dominance by **topping the 'Universities' and 'Research Institutions' categories** for the ninth and fourth consecutive years, respectively.
- **IIM Ahmedabad:** Secured the **top position in the 'Management' category** for the fifth consecutive year.
- **AIIMS, New Delhi:** Remained the leading institution in the **'Medical' category** for seven consecutive years, and was ranked 7th in the 'Overall' category.
- **Jamia Hamdard:** Topped the 'Pharmacy' category, while IIT Roorkee led in 'Architecture and Planning'.
- **Delhi University (DU):** Made a notable jump from 11th to 6th place in the overall rankings, re-entering the top 10 university club in the country.
 - **DU's Hindu College claimed the top position among colleges** for the first time, surpassing Miranda House, which had been the top college for seven consecutive years.
 - St. Stephen's College secured the third position, completing the top three rankings.
- **New Additions to the NIRF 2024:**
 - **New Categories:** The 9th edition of NIRF Rankings introduced three new categories **State Public Universities, Open Universities, and Skill Universities**, and **integrated "Innovation" ranking** using the NIRF, expanding the portfolio to 16 categories and subject domains.
 - **Anna University and Indira Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU)** topped the new State Public Universities and Open Universities categories, respectively.
 - **Symbiosis Skill and Professional University (SSPU), Pune** topped the Skill Universities category.
 - Looking ahead, the Ministry of Education plans to introduce a **new category for Sustainability Rankings in the 2025 edition of the NIRF**, evaluating institutions on their commitment to **environmental sustainability, energy efficiency, and green campus initiatives.**
- **Increased Applications:** The number of unique institutions participating in the rankings increased from 2,426 in 2016 to 6,517 in 2024.
 - The total number of applications also rose significantly, highlighting the growing engagement and recognition of the NIRF rankings.

What is the National Institutional Ranking Framework?

- **About:** The NIRF is a ranking system introduced by the Ministry of Education, Government of India, in 2015. It aims to provide a fair and transparent assessment of higher education institutions across India based on various parameters.
- **Parameters for Ranking:** The NIRF evaluates institutions based on five broad categories.

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Fig. 1: NIRF Parameters for Ranking of Institutions

Note:

- **The National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC)** also evaluates educational institutions. NAAC evaluates and accredits higher education institutions based on a comprehensive **assessment of their overall quality**, encompassing various dimensions. NAAC's accreditation process is **qualitative, focusing on an institution's ability to provide a well-rounded educational experience**.
- The accreditation system **categorises institutions into grades ranging from A++ to D, indicating their overall quality status**.
- In contrast, NIRF's primary role is to rank institutions annually based on specific quantitative

parameters, helping **prospective students gauge the relative performance of institutions across the country.**

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