

A WORD OF ADVICE

Many students have a deep rooted feeling that they do not stand to succeed in IIT-JEE (JEE Advanced) if they have not been doing extremely well in studies so far. JEE requires an analytical approach and it is quite different from normal studies.

The admission to the undergraduate programmes at the IITs for the year 2018 was based on a two-tier test. The first test called the JEE (Main), was held on 8th April, 2018 for students who opted for offline option (online option was also available to attempt the exam which was conducted on 15 / 16 April, 2018). This test was conducted by CBSE. The second test, called the JEE (Advanced), was held on 20th May, 2018. Only 2,24,000 of the Top Rankers in JEE (Main), which includes students from all categories were eligible to appear in JEE (Advanced).

For the first time in history of IIT-JEE, the Joint Entrance Examination (Advanced) 2018 was conducted through online mode i.e. in computer based test mode. All future JEE Advanced exams will be conducted in Computer based Test (CBT) mode.

The JEE (Advanced), 2018 had two objective type papers. Each paper consisted of Physics, Chemistry and Mathematics. Duration of each paper was 3-hours. Question papers were in both English and Hindi. Admissions to IITs was based only on category wise All India Rank (AIR) in JEE (Advanced) subject to the condition that such candidates are in the Top 20 percentile of successful candidates in their respective Class XII (or equivalent) board examination OR Must have secured at least 75% aggregate marks in the Class XII (or equivalent) Board examination. The aggregate marks for SC, ST and PwD candidates should be at least 65%.

A decision was also taken at the level of the IIT Council to, inter alia, improve the gender balance in the undergraduate programs at the IITs from the current (approximately) 8% to 14% in 2018-19 by creating supernumerary seats specifically for female candidates, without any reduction in the number of seats that was made available to non-female candidates in the previous academic year (i.e. academic year 2017-2018).

In another major announcement, Human Resource Development (HRD) Ministry announced that from 2019 the Joint Entrance Exam (JEE Main) will be conducted twice in a year (January and April) through Online (Computer Based Test) mode only. Newly Constituted National Testing Agency (NTA) would start conducting JEE Main from 2019 which was earlier conducted by CBSE.

With this pattern of JEE the competition is expected to be even more fierce and even the number of candidates appearing in JEE probably will be more as compared to previous JEE years.

We have seen that students, who do extremely well in the FIITJEE admission test thereby demonstrating potential for JEE and have the ability to take on the rigors of JEE preparation, come out with top ranks in JEE. This is a phenomenon repeated year after year. We have witnessed that all the Top Rankers in JEE always maintain 100% attendance in FIITJEE classes and follow the FIITJEE Academic system religiously.

To have optimum success & avoid failing, one has to develop excellent temperament besides knowledge of the subject and problem solving skills. To achieve this, we advise you the following:

- **Have clarity of goal & determination** to achieve it. Give top priority to getting into IITs/other top Engineering Institutes. Develop your own plan (overall blue print) to produce peak results.
- **Do not dilute preparation of any topic because of any factor etc.** Unlike school/board exams you cannot score in JEE without reaching a certain level of proficiency.
- **Mere understanding of a concept is not adequate.** You have to learn to apply these concepts in solving tricky problems. Problems in JEE are not direct application of a single concept. Many JEE problems involve more than one basic concept.
- **Develop your analytical skills.** Do not give up solving a problem after one or two attempts only. It is only by doing & trying to do difficult problems that you can improve your analytical skills.
- **You have to optimally use the time available upto JEE.** This would also mean realignment of your extra-curricular and sports activities etc. Realize that the time available in a day is still the same.
- **There is no dearth of books and problems available.** One has to draw boundaries and concentrate on quality rather than quantity. It is possible to prepare a topic by doing 100-120 problems only, if you try to solve them completely by yourself. This may involve devoting half an hour or one hour or may be even more on a tricky problem. **On the other hand your preparation can be very weak and hollow even if you have attempted more than 300 problems on the same topic in the same time, thereby devoting much less time on difficult problems and leaving them as doubts to be cleared from your teachers.** So restrict yourself to FIITJEE assignments and do them thoroughly and totally on your own.
- **Carefully revise concepts** and again solve those stumbling block problems you faced during your preparation.
- **Take several tests** in right environment. These are a must to convert your knowledge & skills into marks. This alone will make a difference between success & failure, a good Rank & a bad Rank.

With best wishes,

The FIITJEE Team

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