

Praj-IISER Pune's Mimamsa 2021 Launched; undergoes a facelift

Pune, March 22, 2021: One of India's most coveted National level Science Competitions Praj-IISER Pune's Mimamsa was officially launched for the year 2021 last week in an on-line ceremony. On the back of resounding success of Mimamsa 2020, this year's competition promises to scale greater heights going by grand plans and overwhelming response from institutions across the country.

Mimamsa 2021 has now got a mascot – Athena, which represents the spirit of Mimamsa as an endeavor to spread the quintessence of science worldwide. The Competition will have a three-rounds format – Prelims, Qualifiers and Mains, unlike two-rounds format in the past. Significant design changes are being made to enhance the overall experience in terms of intellectual stimulus, diversity and logistics among others.

As an event with no registration fee and prize money of INR two lakhs, Mimamsa 2021 is expected to elicit participation from over 2500 institutions across 20 locations all over the country. The prelims round will be held on April 18, 2021, the qualifiers will take place on June 13, 2021, and the grand finale will be a 3-day event, taking place at the IISER Pune's campus in August 2021. Registrations are now open at the competition website - <http://mimamsa.iiserpune.ac.in>

Notwithstanding challenges owing to pandemic outbreak, Praj-IISER-Pune Mimamsa 2020 experienced significant growth- three-fold increase in participation, 75% increase in the competition rewards, and 200% increase in the competition's reach across the country. The defending champions, IISc Bangalore, ended up retaining the title for 2020.

Speaking about Mimamsa 2021, **Dr. Pramod Chaudhari, Founder & Executive Chairman, Praj Industries said**, "Mimamsa is gaining prominence with every passing year and I am delighted to note that it is drawing large number of budding scientists to further the noble cause of science, innovation and technology. Mimamsa inculcates scientific temper in young minds and creates the right ecosystem for innovation to thrive, which would go a long way in the technological progress of the nation. We have conceptualised proposal to provide our technology and research platform to team members making it to final round by way of formal engagement"

On this development, **Prof. Jayant Udgoankar Director of IISER Pune, said**, "Association with Praj Industries has helped transform the scale and magnitude of Mimamsa. This game-changing partnership has enabled record participation at Mimamsa 2020 and, in the process, in establishing Mimamsa as one of the top national level science competitions. The online nature of the initial stages of the competition means that more student teams can participate without having to travel to competition centres. One hopes that this will go a long way in unearthing the scientific talent in the country."

About IISER Pune:

Indian Institute of Science Education and Research (IISER) Pune is a teaching and research institute set up in 2006 by the Ministry of Human Resource and Development (now renamed as the Ministry of Education), Govt. of India, with the primary goal of integrating high-quality research with undergraduate teaching to improve science education in India and to enhance the number and quality of future researchers of the country. The institute offers a 5-year BS-MS dual degree programme, Integrated PhD programme for bachelor level students, and PhD programmes for Master's level students in various disciplines of science and mathematics. Ranked 25 in the 2020 National Institutional Ranking Framework (NIRF), IISER Pune is among the top research and teaching organisations in India.

About Praj Industries Ltd:

Praj, India's most accomplished industrial biotechnology company is driven by innovation, integration and delivery capabilities. Over the past three decades, Praj has focused on the environment, energy, and agri-process industry, with over 750 customer references spanning 75 countries across 5 continents. Bio-mobility™ and Bio-Prism™ are the mainstays of Praj's contribution to the global Bioeconomy. The Bio-Mobility portfolio offers technology solutions globally to produce renewable transportation fuel, thus ensuring sustainable decarbonization through circular bioeconomy. The company's Bio-Prism™ portfolio comprises of technologies for production of renewable chemicals and materials solutions, promises sustainability, while reimagining nature.

Praj Matrix, the state-of-the-art R&D facility, forms the backbone for the company's endeavors towards a clean energy-based Bioeconomy. Praj's diverse portfolio comprises of Bio-energy solutions, Critical process equipment & skids, Breweries, Zero liquid discharge systems and High purity water systems. Led by an accomplished and caring leadership, Praj is a socially responsible corporate citizen. Praj is listed on the Bombay and National Stock Exchanges of India.

For more information, visit www.praj.net.

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