

Record No. of PhDs will be conferred at NITK convocation

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Mangaluru: The 23rd Annual Convocation of the National Institute of Technology Karnataka (NITK), will be held on Nov 15. A total 1,995 degrees will be conferred, with 193 PhDs being conferred, which is a record for the institution. Meanwhile, the ceremony will revert to a single event after parents opposed the two-part arrangements introduced two years ago. Addressing the media on Tuesday, Subhash C Yaragal, deputy dDirector, NITK Surathkal, said that Kamal Bali, president and managing director, Volvo Group India, Bengaluru, will be the chief guest and will deliver the convocation address. BVR Mohan Reddy, founder chairman, Cyient, Hyderabad, and chairperson, board of governors, NITK Surathkal, will preside over the ceremony.

Yaragal said that the institution will award a record number of PhDs at this annual convocation. A total 193 PhDs will be awarded, including 136 to men and 57 to women. Among them, the mechanical department will have a total of 30 PhDs, followed by the civil department with 23 PhDs, with the majority of them aged between 35 to 40 years. In the last convocation it was 139.

Out of the 1,995 degrees, 935 BTech, 641 MTech, 23

MTech (research), 66 MCA, 69 MBA, 68 MSc, and 193 PhD degrees will be awarded. Among these, 283 students will receive BTech degrees with minor specialisation, and 10 will be awarded BTech (honours) degrees. In recognition of academic excellence, 10 BTech students and 31 postgraduate students will receive institute gold medals and medals sponsored by external agencies for securing the highest cumulative grade point average (CGPA) in their respective programmes.

Yaragal shared that the event will be held in the new sports complex of the institute. "We are expecting over 4,000 people to attend, which includes candidates and their parents. We had to move to a single convocation ceremony since a lot of parents were unhappy that it was split into two, and degrees being awarded separately," he said. Yaragal said the police probe into the alleged missing account files was under progress, and a breakthrough was expected soon. "The probe is under way and we expect closure soon," he said. When questioned why the complaint had been registered months after the incident came to light, he maintained that the issue was serious, and they had to inform the ministry of education before taking any further steps and procedures.