

Ind-SAT exam

July 24, 2020

The Ministry of HRD conducted the first ever Indian Scholastic Assessment (Ind-SAT) Test 2020 under its 'Study in India' programme. Nearly five thousand candidates from Nepal, Ethiopia, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Uganda, Tanzania, Rwanda, Sri Lanka, Kenya, Zambia, Indonesia and Mauritius appeared for the exam conducted in the proctored internet mode by the **National Testing Agency**.

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EdCIL (India) Limited, a PSU under MHRD handled the registrations and other aspects of the examination. Ind-SAT is an exam for **grant of scholarships and admissions to foreign students for studying in select Indian universities under the Study in India programme**. The exam is designed to gauge the scholastic capability of students applying to study in India. The Ind-SAT scores will serve as a criterion to shortlist the meritorious students for the allocation of scholarships for undergraduate as well as post graduate programmes under 'Study in India' programme.

The Finance Minister, as part of the budget speech this year, had announced that the Ind-SAT exam is proposed to be **held in Asian and African countries, for benchmarking foreign candidates who receive scholarships for studying in Indian higher education centers**. The exam was held in 12 countries on a pilot basis this year. There are plans to extend this to other countries in the future.

The Study in India is a programme of MHRD under which foreign students come to study in 116 select higher education institutions in India for undergraduate and postgraduate programmes. The selection of the students is based on their merit in the class 12/ school leaving exam. About top 2000

students are given scholarships, while some others are given fee discounts by the institutions. Around 780 students had taken admission under the programme during its first year 2018-19. In the second year this number rose to about 3200.

Built on centuries of values, the Indian Education system is the world's third largest higher education system, having a rich mix of premier Government and private institutes with a network of 38000 colleges and 800 universities. Higher Institutions in India offer degrees that are **competitive in the world market in terms of quality but are delivered at 1/4th the cost** hence guaranteeing value for money. India offers quality education and research, and students will earn internationally renowned degrees. Students will have a range of courses to choose from such as the **latest advancements of science and technology like Virtual and Augmented Reality, Artificial Intelligence and Cognitive Computing to traditional subjects**, such as Ayurveda, Sanskrit, Hindi and Urdu.