

# Now, IIM-T's PGP diploma equivalent to univ master's degree

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

**Trichy:** The post graduate programme offered by the Indian Institute of Management, Trichy, has now been officially declared an equivalent to the master's degree course of any Indian university, by the Association of Indian Universities (AIU).

The 'equivalence certificate' from AIU has opened the doors for post graduate programme (PGP) students of IIM Trichy, especially those who want to pursue higher studies in foreign countries. Those applying for government jobs can now do so without any hassles on their degree recognition. The degree will now be officially treated at par with master's degree issued by Indian universities.

IIM Trichy, the eleventh IIM to be set up by the ministry of human resource development, currently offers three academic programmes — a two-year full-time residential post graduate program in management, a full-time residential fellow programme in management for doctoral candidates and a two-year post graduate programme in business management for working executives at the Chennai campus.

IIM Trichy had initiated the proposal to AIU in the interest of the students and the institute. The matter was placed before the equivalence committee in its meeting held early this year and later appro-

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ved by the governing council. "Students were being awarded post graduate diplomas so far instead of MBA degrees. It had put the students applying to a reputed foreign universities in a fix as they had to explain the relevance of the course in the absence of MBA. But now they will no longer have to do so," said Vivek, a student at IIM.

Expressing happiness over IIM Trichy's over the recognition, director Prafulla Agnihotri said that IIMs are premier institutions under MHRD and IIM Trichy has satisfied the evaluation criteria put forth by AIU.

With this accreditation, IIM Trichy now joins the list of IIMs with equivalence certificate for post graduate programmes — IIM Ahmedabad, Lucknow, Indore, Bangalore, Kolkata and Kozhikode. It has also been clearly stated by AIU that AICTE approval and NBA accreditation for the programme shall not be applicable for IIMs, Agnihotri said.