



IPET, which is under the Union Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers, is affiliated to Anna University, Chennai

stand out



The word plastic is derived from the Greek word *plastikos*, meaning, capable of being shaped or moulded

cipet



In those days, CIPET was the only institute to teach plastic engineering. It's an institute which favours practical training. By giving us an opportunity to interact with the industry, it has honed our entrepreneurial skills

marimuthu
 ALUMNI PRESIDENT
 (1987 BATCH)



This institute for plastic engineering produces more entrepreneurs than any of the IITs

LIVING IN A PLASTIC WORLD

→ **Ammu Zachariah**
 CHENNAI

I hail from Uttar Pradesh and I had heard a lot about CIPET. The facilities they provide for students here are excellent. Also, the faculty is very helpful.

However, the best part is the 100 per cent

placements
Ashish Kumar
 BTECH, SECOND-YEAR



In an era when everybody cries 'Go Green', there's an institute that's exclusively dedicated to the study of plastic engineering. Central Institute of Plastics Engineering and Technology (CIPET) has created a niche for itself in the field of plastic engineering.

Started in Chennai, in 1968, by the Indian government, today it has centres in 15 cities. It's a matter of pride for CIPET that it produces more entrepreneurs than any of the IITs. Plastics engineering and technology involves designing, tool development, processing and manufacturing plastic products.

Dr K Palanivelu, the deputy director of CIPET, shuns away the campaign against plastics. "If you don't want plastic, forget about comfort. From morning to night, you need plastic. In fact, plastic is not the actual danger; the problem arises when the waste is not properly managed," he says.

At the institute, the stress is on practical sessions. Even the classes are structured in such a way that, in a week, there are two days for theory and three days for practicals.

CIPET provides state-of-the-art lab facilities in the fields of mechanical, electrical, characterisation, sterility, chemistry and physics. They are also constructing a communication lab. It has a digital library and video-conferencing facility to connect it with all the other centres across India.

There is a dress code for students and faculty. It's cream and brown-coloured *salwar kameez* for the eves and the boys have to wear a similar coloured shirt and trouser. For the faculty, it's sky blue shirt and black pants. Surprisingly, students are comfortable wearing the uniform. "Initially, it felt odd. While my

I wanted to do something different from the regular engineering courses. Plastic engineering sounded different and exciting. This is an institute, which gives more importance to practical training

madhumitha U
 BTECH, THIRD YEAR



friends wore colourful and fashionable clothes, I had to continue wearing a uniform. But, now I am comfortable. It's an identity," says Ashish Kumar, a second-year BTEch student.

CIPET is devoted to academics, technology support services and research (ATR). It offers a BTEch programme in plastic engineering and technology. There are also two postgraduate programmes: MTech in plastic engineering and polymer nanotechnology. It has introduced a BE programme in manufacturing engineering this year. It also

offers an ME in CAD/CAM. Apart from these, students can choose from various diploma programmes and short-term programmes.

The sponsored training programme, which runs for six months, has many takers. The first three months will be spent in CIPET and then the students undergo training at various industries, with stipend. There are also tailor-made courses for various industries, which span over two weeks. "After Class 12, many opt for engineering. But there is a huge demand for physical labour in many industries. In order to meet these demands, we train students and place them in industries," says Palanivelu.

The institute also facilitates research. It undertakes government and private sponsored R&D projects from India and abroad. In the last two years, the institute has done 25 such projects.

Admissions to the graduate programmes are based on the single-window counselling session of Anna University. The admissions will end by July and the courses will commence in mid-August. Also, scholarships are offered to meritorious students.

"We guarantee 100 per cent placement to our students," says Palanivelu. He proudly shows an advertisement which appeared in one of the West Asian newspapers. The company had specifically asked for students from CIPET.

"Our students are well recognised. There is no plastic industry in India, which runs without a CIPET student," says Dr PSG Krishnan, chief manager, technical.

For more details, log on to www.cipet.gov.in

—ammu@expressbuzz.com

