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IIM-Nagpur to use AI tools to set papers, check answers

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Nagpur: The message is balance — machines for speed, humans for judgement. IIM Nagpur plans to deploy artificial intelligence to speed up evaluation of answer sheets and project work, cutting turnaround from weeks to days while keeping teachers in charge of final grading.

Director Bhimaraya Metri said Saturday the institute is exploring AI tools for assessment and question-paper setting, with difficulty levels calibrated through prompts. Manual checking that now takes about two weeks could be completed in a day or two after AI-assisted first reads, he said. "AI cannot replace humans, but it cannot be ignored," Metri said, adding the push is to use technology without diluting the innovative thinking expected of future entrepreneurs. Under the plan, exams would shift online to en-



NOVEL INITIATIVES Under the plan, IIM Nagpur exams would shift online to enable machine evaluation

able machine evaluation. AI systems would scan for key concepts mapped to answer codes to generate preliminary scores. Human examiners would then review scripts to catch gaps or reward responses that exceed model answers. "An initial assessment by AI would certainly make the whole process much faster," Metri said.

IIM Nagpur is also considering licences for select AI platforms and expects a decision soon after internal consultations.

Access to AI tools would be extended to students and faculty alike. Students may use them for projects, though safeguards will aim to deter copy-paste work. Faculty, armed with advanced tools would deploy counterchecks to preserve originality, Metri said.

The institute is weighing evaluation of students' ability to use AI itself — framing the right questions to extract meaningful answers — as part of academic assessment.