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## Architect for IIM-V's permanent campus in Gambheeram to be selected before June 2018

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**Visakhapatnam:** IIM-Visakhapatnam, which is gradually progressing towards becoming a self-sustaining institution in terms of faculty and infrastructure, will rope in an architect to design its state-of-the-art campus before June 2018.

Final touches are currently being given to the tender documents before sending it to the Union Ministry of Human Resources Development (MHRD) for review. The foundation stone for its permanent campus on a 240-acre land at Gambheeram was laid by then Union HRD minister Smriti Irani in 2015.

IIM-V officials now want to complete the designing process by December 2018 and start construction works in early 2019. Encompassed by lush greenery, the site is located with hills on two sides and a lake in the vi-

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> IIM-V's temporary campus at Andhra Bank School of Business in AU premises, was inaugurated on Sept 21, 2015

> Foundation stone for permanent campus was laid on Jan 17, 2015 on allotted land located at Gambheeram village of Anandapuram mandal



> Permanent campus location is surrounded by hills on two sides with a lake in the vicinity

> Construction of boundary wall already completed

cinity which will provide an ambience of tranquillity to the students.

Director of IIM-V, Prof M Chandrasekhar, said the institute will be on project mode for the first 10 years since its inception during which it will get 700 crore as capital expenditure and 500 crore as recurring expenditure from the MHRD. "The boundary wall around the 240-acre land

near Gambheeram has already been completed. The MHRD has given its nod to prepare the tender documents to have a best-in-class architect on board to design the institute," said Prof Chandrasekhar.

IIM-V will first release the expression of interest, after which the shortlisted firms/agencies will be invited for 'request for proposal'

during which they will participate in a design competition on the lines of the IITs and other IIMs.

"Several factors will be considered by the Board of Governors of the IIM-V in this process while keeping the IIM's reputation as a premier business school in mind. The master plan shall be designed in such a way so as to make the ecology of the campus integrate into the development. Special emphasis will be laid on saving water and energy and to make optimum use of the hilly terrain and natural environment of the area. Our objective is to provide a state-of-the-art learning environment with advanced amenities to the students," added Prof Chandrasekhar.

The selected architect will provide both the master design and detailed sketches. "While the master design specifies where a certain block or hostel can be pla-

ced, the overall design will take care of designing the interiors of the particular building or block. The selection process of the architect will likely be completed by June 2018 and design selection by December 2018," he informed.

The construction of the campus will be taken in three phases. The first phase will comprise of building the academic, hostel and faculty blocks.

The Andhra Bank School of Business building in the Andhra University premises, from which the temporary campus of IIM-V currently operates, was renovated at a cost of 2 crore before commencement of classes for the first batch in 2015.

The students have been provided with state-of-the-art facilities such as Harvard University-modelled classrooms, modern teaching aids, hybrid library and a swanky cafeteria.