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AIEEE: City students bag top two ranks in TN

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CHENNAI: City students bagged the top two ranks in Tamil Nadu in the All India Engineering Entrance Examination (AIEEE), results of which were published on Saturday. V Prashant, who obtained the highest marks in the state, secured the eighth rank in India.

Prashant had secured the fifth rank in the IIT-JEE exam, results of which were released earlier this year. He scored 491 in the CBSE Class XII board exams. KK Anand, founder director, SMART Coaching Centre, who had tutored him for IIT-JEE and AIEEE, says, "The boy is extraordinary. He is systematic in studies and works hard, but it's his brilliance more than hard work that shines through."

Prashant, who passed out from PS Senior Secondary School in Mylapore, is currently in Singapore, celebrating his performance in IIT-JEE, acknowledged as one of the toughest exams in India. He scored 402 in the exam and decided to pursue computer science engineering in IIT Madras. However, he will appear for Birla Institute of Technology's admission test on June 3. "It's just a formality, but Prashant believes in completing what he starts," says Anand.

Akshay Rangamani, who passed out of Vidya Mandir in Mylapore, secured the second spot in Tamil Nadu. He was placed 89th, all-India, in IIT-JEE, and says he will opt for electrical engineering in IIT Madras.

Nearly 10 lakh students appeared for AIEEE on April 26 at 1,460 centres across India. The exam results are used to gain admission to BE, B Tech, B Arch and B Planning courses in various national-level institutes, such as the National Institutes of Technology, Indian Institutes of Information Technology, deemed universities such as Sastra in Thanjavur, and government-funded institutions. Candidates with AIEEE scores are also eligible for admission to engineering institutions in the state through a 15% quota.

This year many students claimed that the paper was tougher than in earlier years. Also, the marking system changed, with a provision for negative marking. The number of total questions was reduced from 120 to 90 last year.

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