

Indian Statistical Institute
203, B.T Road, Kolkata – 700 108



Proceedings of the 86th Meeting of the Academic Council held on December 23, 2025 at 2:00 pm in the CSSC VC Room, ISI, Kolkata and online

Members Present			
1	Sanghamitra Bandyopadhyay (Chair)	22	Dibakar Ghosh
2	Biswabrata Pradhan (Convener)	23	Partha Sarathi Chakraborty
3	Prasun Das	24	Kishor Satpathy
4	Mohammed Zafar Anis	25	Kiranmoy Das
5	Debasis Sengupta	26	Gopal Krishna Basak
6	Rajat Kumar De	27	Tanvi Jain
7	Arijit Chakraborty	28	Yogeshwaran D
8	Sabyasachi Karati	29	Arup K Das
9	Raghunath Chatterjee	30	Arup K Pal
10	Sarbani Palit	31	Jagadish
11	Mandar Mitra	32	Mridu Prabal Goswami
12	Pradipta Maji	33	Tanvi Jain
13	Antar Bandyopadhyay	34	Anish Sarkar
14	Anuj Bhowmik (Invitee)	35	Deepayan Sarkar
15	Sourav Chakraborty	36	Nandini Das
16	Malay Bhattacharyya	37	Debashis Paul
	Following Member Participated Virtually	38	Ranjan Sett
17	Sujeet Kumar Singh	39	Partha Sarathi Chakraborty
18	M Krishnamurthy	40	Samarjit Das
19	Debashish Goswami	41	SM Subhani
20	Parthasarathi Ghosh	42	Debarati Mukherjee (Invitee)
21	Sujata Ghosh		

Agenda item no. 1: Opening Remarks by the Chairperson of the Academic Council of the Institute.

Professor Sanghamitra Bandyopadhyay, Chair, welcomed the members to the 86th meeting of the Academic Council.

Agenda Item no. 2: Confirmation of the proceedings of the 85th meeting of the Academic Council.

The proceedings of the aforementioned meetings of the Academic council were confirmed as circulated.

3. Reporting Matters

Agenda item no. 3.1: Acceptance of the proposal to institute the M. Math. programme at ISI Delhi in even years, starting from the Academic Year 2026-27.

A proposal for instituting the M.Math. programme at ISI Delhi was placed before the Academic Council in its 83rd meeting. Pursuant to the decision taken in the 83rd meeting of the AC, the proposal was referred to the Feasibility Committee for its views. The Feasibility Committee recommended instituting the M.Math. programme, and its recommendations were placed before the AC in its 85th meeting for consideration. It was decided that the AC members would be given time to submit their views on the proposal. Accordingly, pursuant to the decision taken in the 85th meeting of the AC, the members were given one week to submit their comments, views, and concerns regarding the proposal to institute the M.Math. programme at ISI Delhi. The Feasibility Committee subsequently reviewed the comments and concerns raised by the Academic Council members, as well as the comments submitted by the Head, SMUD. After this review, the Feasibility Committee reiterated its earlier recommendation to institute the M.Math. programme at ISI Delhi in even years.

Based on the recommendations of the Feasibility Committee, it has been accepted that the M.Math. programme be offered at ISI Delhi in even years, starting from 2026. The same was circulated to the Academic Council.

Agenda item no. 3.2: Acceptance of the revised structure and syllabus of the M. Tech. (QROR) programme, to be implemented from the Academic Year 2026-27.

The Committee chaired by Dr. Prasun Das was constituted vide Office Order No. DS/2023-24/0955 dated 22 November 2023, to review course structure and syllabus of the M. Tech. (QROR) programme, in accordance with the decision taken in the 80th Meeting of the AC. The report of the committee was submitted in the 85th Meeting of the AC. Pursuant to the decision taken in the 85th meeting of the Academic Council, the AC members were given two weeks' time to submit their comments/views on the report of the M. Tech (QROR) syllabus review to the chair of the committee. However, no comments were received by the Committee within the due date.

It was communicated to the AC that the revised structure and syllabus of M. Tech (QROR) programme be accepted and implemented from the Academic year 2026-2027.

Agenda item no. 3.3: Acceptance of the report of the Committee on the review of the structure and syllabus of the M.S. (QMS) programme, including the renaming of the programme as the Master of Science in Quality Management and Business Analytics [M.S. (QMBA)], along with its revised structure and syllabus, to be implemented from the Academic Year 2026-27.

The Committee chaired by Dr. E. V. Gijo was constituted, vide Office Order No. DS/2023-24/0956 dated 22 November 2023, to review the structure and syllabus of the MS (QMS) programme, in accordance with the decision taken in the 80th Meeting of the AC. It was also decided in the 80th Meeting that the committee would consider the possibility of changing the name of the MS (QMS) programme. The committee submitted its report with the changing name of the programme as MS in Quality Management and Business Analytics (MSQMBA) along with the structure and syllabus. The report of the committee was submitted in the 85th Meeting of the AC for consideration.

Pursuant to the decision taken in the 85th meeting of the AC, the AC members were given three

weeks' time to submit their comments and views on the report of the M.S. (QMS) syllabus review, along with the proposal to rename the programme as Master of Science in Quality Management and Business Analytics (MSQMBA). Based on the comments received by the Committee, the structure and syllabi have been revised.

It was communicated to the Academic Council that the M.S. (QMS) programme will be renamed as the Master of Science in Quality Management and Business Analytics [M.S. (QMBA)], and that the structure and syllabi of the M.S. (QMBA) programme be accepted and implemented from the academic year 2026–27.

Agenda item no. 3.4: Acceptance of the proposal of offering Causal Inference Course under a special topic in Statistics in the second semester of M. Stat II year (2025-26)

The proposal of introducing the course “Introductory Causal Inference” under Special Topics in Statistics to be offered in the second Semester of M. Stat II Year (2025-2026) by Dr. Ambarish Chattopadhyay was placed in the 85th Meeting of the AC. Pursuant to the decision taken in the 85th meeting of the Academic Council, the proposed course “*Introductory Causal Inference*” under Special Topics in Statistics, to be offered in the second semester of the M.Stat. II year (2025–26), was reviewed by external reviewers. It was also decided that the course be offered jointly with the M.S. (QE) programme. Based on the recommendations of the reviewers, the course name has been changed to “**Causal Inference**,” and the syllabus has been revised.

It was communicated to the Academic Council that the course “*Causal Inference*” will be offered under *Special Topics in Statistics* in the second semester of the M.Stat. II year (2025–26), and that it will be offered jointly with the M.S. (QE) programme.

3.5 No interviews for admission to the MS (QE) programme to continue for another two years (2026 and 2027).

It was decided in the 83rd meeting of the Academic Council (AC) that the interview stage for admission to the MS (QE) programme be suspended for one year. This is to report that the interview stage for admission to the MS (QE) programme be suspended for a further two years (2026 and 2027).

4. Discussion and Decisions

Agenda Item no. 4.1: Approval of the list of successful candidates to be awarded degrees/diplomas of PhD (as on 12/12/2025), M. Tech. (CS), M. Tech. (CrS), M. Tech. (QR & OR), M. Math., M. Stat., MS (QE), MS (QMS), MS (LIS), B. Stat., B. Math., PGDSMA, PGDARSMA, PGDAS and PGDBA

Discussion: The Dean of Studies presented the list and summary sheet of successful candidates to be awarded degrees and diplomas for approval. Prof. Antar Bandyopadhyay commented that the summary sheet was well prepared. He further suggested that it would be more informative if the number of students admitted to each programme could be shown alongside the number of students graduating. The Dean of Studies pointed out the practical difficulties in incorporating this information into the summary sheet.

Resolution: It was resolved that the list of successful candidates for the award of degrees and diplomas be approved.

Agenda item no. 4.2: To consider a new format for the mark sheets of the degree and diploma programmes.

Discussion: The Dean of Studies presented the proposed new formats of the mark sheets before the AC and explained the rationale for introducing the revised formats. He noted that the existing mark-sheet formats for the degree and diploma programmes contain only limited information, providing the marks obtained in each subject and the division awarded to the student. They do not indicate the full marks, pass marks, or the rules for the award of divisions, making it difficult to interpret the results. In view of these limitations, new mark-sheet formats have been proposed. The revised formats include the full marks, pass marks, marks obtained in each subject, and the rules governing the award of divisions, thereby providing a more comprehensive and transparent record of a student's academic performance.

Resolution: It was decided to designate one or two faculty members for each programme and allow them one week to review the proposed formats of the mark sheets and suggest any changes or improvements, if necessary. The revised mark-sheet formats shall be implemented after incorporating the recommendations received, if any.

Agenda item no. 4.3: Consideration of the proposal for the implementation of the DigiLocker system for the issuance, sharing, and verification of marksheets and certificates for all degree and diploma programmes of the Institute.

Discussion: Dean of Studies requested Prof. Sarbani Palit to present the proposal. Prof. Palit informed that DigiLocker is a digital document wallet and verification service provided by the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY), Government of India. It serves as a platform for the issuance, storage, and verification of documents and certificates in digital form. She further informed that the Institute's nodal Ministry had requested ISI to implement DigiLocker so that students could access their degree certificates digitally.

Prof. Palit also stated that the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology had shared the prescribed formats for degree certificates and mark sheets to be made available through DigiLocker. The digital certificates would carry the following disclaimer in the footer: *"This is a digital certificate. The format of this certificate may differ from the document issued by the issuer."*

Prof. Antar Bandyopadhyay expressed concern that issuing digital certificates and mark sheets through DigiLocker would require Aadhaar-based authentication. He noted that the Institute does not currently possess the necessary Aadhaar authentication facility and would therefore need to obtain the requisite authorization. He further observed that obtaining such authorization would require the Institute to maintain a high level of data security, which, in his view, would necessitate significant improvements to the existing server infrastructure and related systems. After deliberation, it was agreed that the pros and cons of implementing DigiLocker should be examined in detail before a decision is taken.

Resolution: It was resolved to designate Prof. Arijit Chakrabarty and Dr. Sabyasachi Karati to examine the pros and cons of implementing DigiLocker by consulting institutions that have already adopted the platform. The Institute may consider implementing DigiLocker in the future after these members submit their findings on its feasibility and the necessity of its implementation.

Agenda item no. 4.4: Consideration of the reports of the Feasibility Committee and the Syllabus Review committee on introducing the Post Graduate Diploma in Statistical & Computational Genomics for Biomedical Research programme at ISI, Kolkata

Discussion: The Dean of Studies requested the Chair of the Feasibility Committee to present the Committee's report. Prof. Rajat K. De informed the Academic Council that the Feasibility Committee had recommended the introduction of the proposed programme. The Dean of Studies then requested the Chair of the Syllabus Review Committee to present the Committee's views. Prof. Pradipta Maji informed the Council that a few modifications had been made to the proposed curriculum. In particular, the number of Statistics courses had been reduced from three to two. Prof. Antar Bandyopadhyay raised an objection regarding the Statistics course titled "**Introduction to R Programming.**"

Resolution: It was resolved that the Academic Council (AC) authorize the Dean of Studies and Prof. Raghunath Chatterjee to take a final decision regarding the course "Introduction to R Programming." It was further agreed that the fee structure should form part of the Prospectus rather than the Student Brochure. It was also decided that the number of lecture hours for each course would be indicated in the Student Brochure. The name of the programme was finalized as **Post Graduate Diploma in Statistical and Computational Genomics**. It was further resolved that, after addressing the above issues, the programme be offered from the 2026–2027 academic year.

Agenda item no. 4.5: To consider whether the course Weak Convergence of Probability Measures (WCPM) should be offered in the first or the second semester of the M.Stat. II year.

Discussion: The Dean of Studies stated that, at the 85th meeting of the AC, it was decided to split the course **Weak Convergence and Empirical Processes**, offered in the second year of the M.Stat. programme, into the following two courses: (1) Weak Convergence of Probability Measures (WCPM): Compulsory for Probability Specialization.

(2) Theory of Empirical Processes (TEP): Compulsory for Theoretical Statistics Specialization.

It was further decided that WCPM will be taught in the first semester and TEP in the second semester of M. Stat. 2nd year. However, on second thoughts, a few issues with offering WCPM in the first semester emerged, which are briefly mentioned below.

1. If WCPM is offered in the first semester, then the number of compulsory courses for the Probability Specialization in the first semester becomes five. This leaves no room for any electives for those students.

2. M. Math. 2nd year students, who may be interested in taking WCPM as an elective, would have to do it in their first semester concurrently with the course on Probability Theory. The course on WCPM would be easier to follow if taken after Probability Theory.

In view of these, the AC may deliberate once again to decide on when to offer WCPM - the first semester or the second semester.

Resolution: It was resolved that Weak Convergence of Probability Measures will be offered in the second semester of the M.Stat II yr. on an experimental basis from the academic year 2025-26.

Agenda item no. 4.6: Consideration of the proposal to offer the course Time Series Analysis in the second semester of the M. Stat. I year and the course Resampling Techniques in the first semester of the M.Stat. II year.

Discussion: The Dean of Studies placed the proposal before the AC. Prof. Antar Bandyopadhyay strongly opposed the proposal, stating that it was not viable for students of the NB stream. Prof. Kiranmoy Das observed that, although the proposal posed difficulties for the NB stream, **Time Series Analysis** is a fundamental course and is currently offered in the second year.

Prof. Antar Bandyopadhyay further explained that the course is offered in the second year because there is no scope to accommodate it in the first-year curriculum. He further noted that the curriculum had been the subject of extensive deliberations by the M.Stat. Review Committee for more than a year. Following these deliberations, the courses were structured in their present form, with **Time Series Analysis** being placed in the second year to maintain parity between the B and NB streams.

Resolution: It was resolved that the proposal to offer the course **Time Series Analysis** in the second semester of the first year of the M.Stat. programme be referred to the M.Stat. Syllabus Review Committee for its consideration.

Agenda item no. 4.7. Consideration of the proposal of introducing the course “Economic and Social Network II” under Special Topics to be offered in the second Semester of MSQE II Year (2025-2026) by Dr. Anuj Bhowmik.

Discussion: The Dean of Studies requested Dr. Anuj Bhowmik to present the proposal. Dr. Bhowmik stated that the proposed course, **Economic and Social Networks II**, is intended to be a continuation of **Economic and Social Networks I** and will cover advanced topics in network theory and its applications in economics. He further informed the Academic Council that the course would be offered in the second semester for second-year MSQE students.

Resolution: It was resolved that the course **Economic and Social Networks II** be offered in the second semester of the second year of the MSQE programme without affecting the normal course schedule.

Agenda item no. 4.8: Consideration of the report of the Committee constituted via Office Order No. DS/2024-25/0941 dated 30 October 2024 regarding JRF reservation policy.

Discussion: All but one recommendation made in the original report of the Committee dated 23 January 2025 were accepted in the 84th meeting of the AC. As decided by the AC, it was requested to the Committee on 31 October 2025 to re-examine the reservation policy of all JRF programmes, incorporating admissions to the JRF programmes through channel 0 (Channel for ISI Master students). The earlier recommendation of the Committee in the matter of JRF reservations was: Quota based reservation (in line with the policy currently used for non-JRF programmes) should be adopted to those programmes where the number of seats is eight or more.

The recommendations of the committee are as follows:

1. Quota based reservation (in line with the policy currently used for non-JRF programmes) should be adopted to those programmes where the number of seats is eight or more (combining Channel 0 and Channel 1). The existing policy of selection of reserved category candidates may continue for the remaining programmes.
2. Allocation of the total number of seats across all JRF programmes with quota-based

reservation may be announced in the prospectus, while programme wise distribution of category seats may be documented internally. The aggregate of number of seats for each programme may continue to be shown in the prospectus separately for Channel 1 and Channel 0 (which may be up to 25% of the seats in that JRF programme, as already decided by the AC.)

3. Unfilled seats in Channel 0 may be transferred to Channel 1.

4. The qualifying threshold at the interview (on the maximum of all scores given by interview panelists) may be increased from 10% to 35%.

5. It is desirable that the Merit list and the First Allocation list for Channel 0 seats be published before closing date of application for Channel 1.

Resolution: It was resolved to accept all the recommendations made by the Committee. It was further agreed that applications under Channel 0 be processed separately and not through the admission portal. Applicants under Channel 0 may be asked to submit their applications to the Dean of Studies, and the applications may be considered in accordance with the prescribed eligibility criteria.

Agenda item no. 4.9: Consideration of the proposal to remove the interview stage and introduce an additional written test in the afternoon session in place of the interview for admission to the PGDSMA and PGDAS programmes.

Discussion: The Dean of Studies placed the proposal before the AC and stated that the interview component of the selection process had not added significant value in differentiating or ranking candidates. He explained that, if the interview were discontinued, an additional written test would be introduced in the afternoon session in its place. He further noted that the same syllabus used for the first written test could also be adopted for the second test.

Prof. Antar Bandyopadhyay expressed concern that removing the interview from one programme after another solely on the ground that it had not provided significant additional weight in the selection process was a matter of concern. He further suggested that the Institute should await the report of the Committee constituted to analyse the impact of removing the interview from the B.Stat./B.Math. admission process before considering similar proposals for other programmes.

Resolution: It was resolved that the proposal be referred to a Committee to be constituted to examine the issue of removing the interview component across all non-JRF programmes. As the Committee would require time to study and analyse the matter, it was further resolved that the existing interview process for admission to the PGDSMA and PGDAS programmes would continue unchanged for the 2026–2027 academic year.

Agenda item no. 4.10: To consider eligibility criteria and method of selection for admission to the Bachelor of Statistical Data Science (BSDS) programme in 2026.

Discussion : Dean of Studies placed this agenda and says that the eligibility criteria and method of selection for admission to the Bachelor of Statistical Data Science (BSDS) programme in 2026

will be as follows:

Eligibility: In order to be eligible for admission, a student must have successfully completed 10+2 years of Higher Secondary Education (or its equivalent)

(a) in 2025 or 2026

(b) with (i) Mathematics / Applied Mathematics and (ii) English as subjects of study, and

(c) with at least 75% marks in aggregate (65% for SC, ST and PwD

candidates). Aggregate percentage calculation:

- Aggregate percentage to be calculated based on scores of Mathematics, English and three best scores of remaining subjects.
- If a Board awards only letter grades without providing an equivalent percentage of marks on the grade sheet, the candidate should obtain a certificate from the Board specifying the equivalent percentage of marks.
- For boards that use semester systems or give weightage to both years, only class XII marks will be considered to calculate the aggregate percentage.

Method of Selection: The admission to the Bachelor of Statistical Data Science (BSDS) programme in 2026 will be based on the scores in either

- 1) JEE Main 2026
- 2) JEE Main 2025
- 3) CUET (UG) 2026 (Mathematics as well as English), or
- 4) CUET (UG) 2025 (Mathematics as well as English)

The Dean of Studies further commented that, in 2025, no cutoff was prescribed for inclusion in the merit list. As a result, all applicants were included, leading to an exceptionally large merit list. Consequently, many candidates remained under the impression that they had a realistic chance of securing admission to the programme.

To address this issue, the following is proposed. To be included in the merit list, a candidate's percentile score must exceed a minimum cutoff (to be specified in the selection policy) in at least one of the following: JEE Main 2026 Mathematics, JEE Main 2025 Mathematics, CUET (UG) 2026 Mathematics, CUET (UG) 2025 Mathematics. The cutoff will be decided by the admission committee.

Resolution: It was resolved to approve the proposal by the Academic Council and to implement from the 2026 admission cycle.

Agenda item no. 4.11: To allow PGDAS students from the first four cohorts (batches), who have already passed their first semester, to complete the specialization by paying the requisite fees and passing the eight requisite courses within ten semesters from the date of their original registration.

Discussion: Dean of Studies placed the prayer that a student of the first batch/cohort of PGDAS students, who had started in the Autumn semester of 2022, completed only one semester of PGDAS and left with a certificate, has expressed interest in the revised/restructured PGDAS curriculum, in which the specializations consist of eight courses (instead of six). If he joins as a new student, he will be required to do four compulsory courses that he has already passed. The new curriculum is applicable to students of Cohort 5 onwards.

It is proposed that students of the first four cohorts/batches, who have already passed their first semester, be permitted by AC to complete the specialization by paying the requisite fees and passing the eight requisite courses within ten semesters of their original registration.

Decision: The proposal is accepted provided that the existing rules permits in such cases.

Agenda item no. 4.12: Consideration of the report of the committee chaired by Prof. Mandar Mitra to review the structure and content of the M. Tech (CS) programme

Discussion: Dean of Studies requested Prof. Mandar Mitra to place the report of the committee. Prof. Mitra stated that in accordance with the decision taken in the 82nd meeting of the AC, a committee was constituted vide Office Order No. DS/2024-25/0820 dated 19 September 2024 to review the structure and content of the M.Tech. (CS) programme. Prof. Mitra further presented the committee's recommendation as follows:

The proposed major changes:

- CS stream vs. non-CS stream: candidates will now need a prior CS degree in order to be categorised as CS stream
- Minor project: equivalent to one course (instead of two)
non-CS stream students are also eligible for minor project.
- Formative course requirement for non-CS stream: Simplified
- Semester-wise layout of courses (compulsory, formative, elective): Streamlined in order to avoid having to offer the same course in both semesters
- Dissertation evaluation: total marks unchanged, but evaluation out of
 - 100 marks at the end of the first semester,
 - 200 marks at the end of the second semester.

Restructured courses:

Existing	Proposed
Computer Organization + Computer Architecture	Digital Design and Computer Architecture Advanced Computer Architecture
Data and File Structures + Design and Analysis of Algorithms	Data Structures and Algorithms + Design and Analysis of Algorithms
Machine Learning I Machine Learning II Neural Networks	Machine Learning Deep Learning Generative AI and Foundational Models

Other modifications to individual courses:

Introduction to Programming: half-semester → Full-semester

Principles of Programming Languages : formative → Elective

Data Structures and Algorithms : formative → Compulsory (formative requirement reduced from 5 to 4)

Operating Systems : compulsory (non-CS) → Formative
Digital Design and Computer Architecture : New compulsory (non-CS)

New Elective Courses:

Artificial Intelligence: intended to cover “classical” AI.

Computability Theory

Finite Model Theory

Math Toolkits for CS

Special Topics in Complexity Theory

Parallel Algorithms

Unresolved issues:

Formative course requirement for non-CS stream: timeline

The requirements of Compulsory and Formative courses for the non-CS stream students (both with and without a Master’s degree in Mathematics/Statistics), as mentioned in the brochure, have to be completed within the first year of the programme.

Opinion 1: Formatives are basic/foundational courses and should be completed before students take advanced / elective courses.

Opinion 2: Not all formatives are prerequisites for popular electives and are intended to ensure a well-rounded CS-background for non-CS stream students. So opting them even in the 4th semester should not pose any problems

Resolution: It was decided that the Dean of Studies would circulate the Committee's report to the members of the Academic Council (AC) by email for their comments and suggestions. After incorporating any modifications, if required, the revised report would be implemented from the 2026–2027 academic year.

Agenda item no. 4.13: Consideration of the report of the committee chaired by Dr. Debrup Chakraborty to review the structure and content of the M. Tech (CrS) programme

Discussion: The Dean of Studies requested Dr. Debrup Chakraborty to present the Committee's report. Dr. Chakraborty stated that the Committee had designed the course structure to be closely aligned with that of the M.Tech.(CS) programme. The recommendations of the Committee are as follows:

Summary of M.Tech(CrS) Structures:

There will be two streams: **CS** and **Non-CS**. Classification into the respective streams will be determined at the time of admission.

1. CS stream: Graduate in Computer Science / Information Technology / any other discipline regarded as equivalent by the admission committee, AND must have qualified based on
 - EITHER their answers to questions from the Computer Science section(s) of the written test(s);
 - OR a valid GATE score (above a threshold as decided by the admission committee) in Computer Science / Information Technology / any other discipline regarded as equivalent by the admission committee.
2. Non-CS stream: Others

- Compulsory Non-Credit: Introduction to Programming
- Seven Compulsory Courses
- Four Formative courses
- Six Elective Courses: 4 CrS Electives + 2 free electives
- One Semester Dissertation

At least 17 Credit Courses (1700 marks) + Dissertation (300 marks)

Compulsory Courses:

Discrete Mathematics
 Data Structures and Algorithms
 Design and Analysis of Algorithms
 Computing Laboratory
 Cryptology I
 Cryptology II
 Computing Systems Security I

Formative Courses

Pool A:

Digital Design and Computer Architecture
 Computer Networks
 Database Management Systems
 Operating Systems
 Digital Design and Computer Architecture
 Computer Networks
 Database Management Systems

Pool B

Abstract Algebra and Number Theory
 Linear Algebra
 Probability and Stochastic Processes
 Statistical Methods
 Theory of Computation
 Abstract Algebra and Number Theory
 Linear Algebra
 Probability and Stochastic Processes
 Statistical Methods
 Theory of Computation

CS Stream: At least 3 from Pool B

Non-CS Stream: At least 3 from Pool A

Elective Courses

Blockchains and Cryptocurrencies
 Coding and Information Theory
 Computational Complexity
 Computational Number Theory
 Computing Systems Security II
 Cryptographic and Security Implementation
 Hardware Security
 Math Toolkits for CS
 Multiparty computations
 Topics in Cryptology
 Topics in Privacy

Quantum Computations and Cryptography

Free Electives: Any from the list of CS electives/CrS Electives /

Suggested ideal Semester-wise layout

	CS	Non-CS
S1	Data Structures and Algo.	Data Structures and Algo.
	Discrete Maths	Discrete Maths
	Cryptology I	Cryptology I
	Abstract Algebra and NT	Dig. Des. & Comp. Arch.
	Prob and Stoch Processes	Stat Methods
S2	Des. and Ana. of Algo	Des. and Ana. of Algo
	Cryptology II	Cryptology II
	Computing Laboratory	Computing Laboratory
	Theory of Computation	Computer Networks
	Operating Systems	Operating Systems

	CS	Non-CS
S3	Computing Sys Sec I	Computing Sys Sec I
	Electives (4)	Electives(4)
S4	Electives (2)	Electives (2)
	Dissertation	Dissertation

Suggested ideal Semester-wise layout

	CS	Non-CS
S1	Intro. to Prog.	Intro. to Prog.
	Data Structures and Algo.	Data Structures and Algo.
	Discrete Maths	Discrete Maths
	Cryptology I	Cryptology I
	Abstract Algebra and NT	Dig. Des. & Comp. Arch
	Prob. and Stoch. Processes	Stat. Methods
S2	Des. and Ana. of Algo	Des. and Ana. of Algo
	Cryptology II	Cryptology II
	Computing Laboratory	Computing Laboratory
	Theory of Computation	Computer Networks
	Operating Systems	Operating Systems
S3	Computing Sys. Sec. I	Computing Sys. Sec. I
	Electives (4)	Electives(4)
S4	Electives (2)	Electives (2)
	Dissertation	Dissertation

Other Regulations

- Duration: Two years. A student may choose to complete in 3 years. Stipend, hostels only for 2 years.
- Waiver of Attendance: A student may ask for waiver of attendance in case of Formative

Courses. Have to obtain 60% to pass.

- Mentor Committee: Same as in CS
- CrS Dissertation Committee: Approval of dissertation topics; Evaluation.

Dissertation

- Duration: One semester.
- Supervisor: May have a primary supervisor external to ISI (must be in an institute/industry of repute; must have a PhD degree). Approval required from CrS dissertation committee.
- Dissertation Outside ISI: A student may be allowed to spend at most one semester outside ISI for dissertation work. Approval from Mentor and CrS Dissertation Committee required

Resolution: It was decided that the Dean of Studies would circulate the Committee's report to the members of the Academic Council (AC) by email for their comments and suggestions. After incorporating any modifications, if required, the revised report would be implemented from the 2026–2027 academic year.

4.14 Consideration of the proposal for change of course-work and yearly evaluation rules of JRF (CS) programme.

Discussion: The Dean of Studies requested Prof. Sourav Chakraborty to present the proposal. Prof. Chakraborty stated that the course requirements for JRF (Computer Science) needed to be revised following changes to the M.Tech. (Computer Science) curriculum. He noted that the earlier course requirements for JRF (Computer Science) contained several ambiguities. To address these ambiguities, the RFAC–CCSD revised the course requirements and proposed a new set of rules for research fellows in Computer Science, as follows:

1.Course Requirements

A Junior Research Fellow (JRF) in Computer Science (CS) must complete successfully a total of five courses (along with the MTech CS students) within her/his first two years. 1. One from the Programming Courses:

(P1) Introduction to Programming

(P2) Computing Laboratory

1. One from the Systems Courses:

(S1) Computer Organization and Architecture

(S2) Operating Systems

(S3) Computer Networks

2. One from the Algorithms Courses:

(A1) Data Structures and Algorithms

(A2) Design and Analysis of Algorithms

3. One from the Mathematics Courses:

(M1) Discrete Mathematics

(M2) Probability and Stochastic Processes

(M3) Optimization

4. One from any other MTech CS course chosen in consultation with the RFAC.

1.1 Passing Condition

A JRF needs to secure at least 60% marks in any course to be considered as passing that course.

1.2 Comprehensive Examination (in lieu of regular course)

Comprehensive Examinations (for some of the courses) will be conducted at the beginning of every semester (within 6 weeks from the start of the semester).

The following courses will be held in the start of every odd semester:

- (P1) Introduction to Programming
- (S1) Computer Organization and Architecture
- (A1) Data Structures and Algorithms
- (M1) Discrete Mathematics
- (M2) Probability and Stochastic Processes

The following courses will be held in the start of every even semester:

- (P2) Computing Laboratory
- (S2) Operating Systems
- (S3) Computer Networks
- (A2) Design and Analysis of Algorithms
- (M3) Optimization

A JRF may apply to the relevant RFAC for appearing in the Comprehensive Examinations. A JRF has to secure a score of 60% or more in the Comprehensive Examinations to be considered as successful completion of that course.

If a JRF opts to take the Comprehensive Examinations, then these examinations must be taken within her/his first year after admission.

1.3 Special Case: JRF students who received some master's degree from ISI

For the sake of uniformity, a JRF who has taken any of the courses along with the MTech CS students, needs to report to the relevant RFAC with the list of courses she/he has taken as listed above and has scored >60% in each of those courses. Only then would such a JRF get a waiver for those courses.

Completion of Coursework

A JRF who has successfully completed five courses as stipulated in the table above would be considered to have completed all necessary course requirements for PhD registration at the Institute. However, as recommended by the RFAC CCSD and, if necessary, in consultation with her/his Supervisor(s) (if assigned), a JRF/SRF may take other regular or research courses offered at the Institute which are related to her/his doctoral dissertation work.

Rules for JRF/SRF on other external grants

Students who are supported by external fellowships (such as UGC, CSIR, TCS, Google, and similar agencies), as well as those who are not receiving any fellowship from ISI or other sources but are enrolled in the ISI PhD programme and are affiliated with RFAC CCSD, are required to comply with all the aforementioned regulations regarding coursework, annual evaluation, and registration. Any additional requirements imposed by an external funding agency will be addressed on a case by-case basis.

Decision: It has been decided that Dean of Studies will circulate the report of the committee to the members of the AC by email for comments and/or modification. After incorporating modification(s), if it is there, will be implemented for the programme from the upcoming academic year 2026-2027.

Resolution: It was decided that the Dean of Studies would circulate the Committee's report to the members of the Academic Council (AC) by email for their comments and suggestions. After incorporating any modifications, if required, the revised report would be implemented from the 2026–2027 academic year.

5.0 Miscellaneous item.

5.1 Consideration of the proposal of introducing master's thesis in the second year of M Math programme.

Discussion: The Dean of Studies requested Prof. Debashish Goswami to present the proposal. Prof. Goswami proposed the introduction of a **Master's Thesis** in the second year of the M.Math. programme, carrying a weight equivalent to seven full courses (700 marks). He explained that a student who opts for, and is permitted to undertake, a thesis would be required to complete only the three compulsory courses—Differential Geometry I, Probability Theory, and Partial Differential Equations—during the second year, and would not be required to take any elective courses. He further proposed that the eligibility criteria and guidelines for permitting a student to undertake a thesis should be the same as those currently applicable to the project component of the programme.

With regard to supervision, he stated that a thesis may be supervised by a single supervisor if the supervisor belongs to the same ISI centre at which the student is enrolled. Alternatively, a student may have a supervisor from another ISI centre or from another institute or university in India or abroad, provided that there is a co-supervisor from the student's home ISI centre. Prof. Goswami further proposed that the rules governing the evaluation of the thesis should broadly follow those applicable to the evaluation of the existing project. He also proposed that the title of the thesis be recorded on the student's mark sheet.

Resolution: The proposal should be accompanied by a detailed report. A Committee will be constituted to review the proposal and develop a comprehensive evaluation procedure.

The meeting ended with the thanks to the chair.

Sd/-
Biswabrata Pradhan

Dean of Studies and
Convener of the AC

Sd/-
Sanghamitra Bandyopadhyay

Director (Officiating) and
Chair of the AC