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IIM Cal faculty body writes to Centre over board's regulations

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Kolkata: The IIM Calcutta Faculty Association (IIMCFA) on Thursday wrote to Union education secretary Amit Khare, expressing concern over the regulations that had been drafted by the Board of Governors (BoG). The regulations will guide IIM's functioning in light of the IIM Act that was passed in 2017.

Terming the proposed regulations as "misappropriation of the Act by the BoG", the association alleged that the draft regulations submitted to the ministry are contrary to the spirit of the IIM Act.

"We have expressed three core concerns over the proposed first regulations which may have serious implications for the stature and future of IIM Calcutta. First, the regulations appear oblivious to the legacy of excellence at institutions like IIM Calcutta. Second, the regulations are detrimental to the IIM Calcutta's autonomy. Third, the proposed regulations detract from the objectives stipulated in IIM Act," said one of the professors who is also a member of the association.

Another professor pointed out that the BoG was trying to appropriate the executive powers through nine sub-committees that have been proposed in the regulation. These executive powers should be bestowed with the institute's officials and academicians, he said, pointing out that IIM Ahmedabad and IIM Bangalore had only two or three sub-committees.

"This over-centralisation of power into the hands of the BoG will lead to collapse in execution of day-to-day activities," explained another professor.

The faculty association fears that the regulations once framed will change the inherent nature of IIM and govern the institute in future. IIMCFA secretary Ashok Banerjee said, "We are hopeful that the ministry will look into our concern."