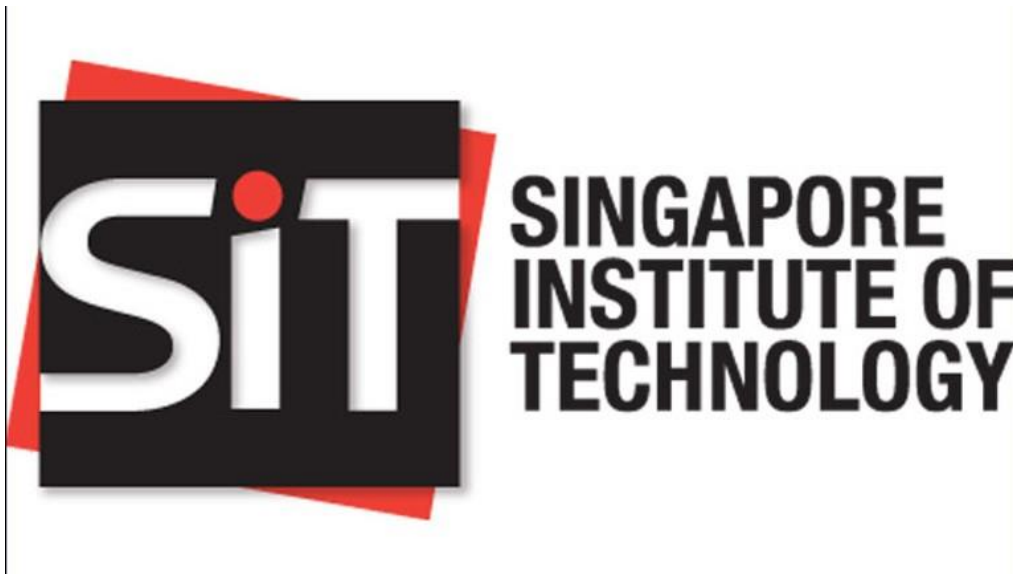


SIT to be Singapore's fifth autonomous university

By Leong Wai Kit
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The Singapore Institute of Technology (SIT) will become the Republic's fifth autonomous university after Parliament passed a Bill on Monday.



SINGAPORE: The Singapore Institute of Technology (SIT) will become the Republic's fifth autonomous university.

This comes after Parliament on Monday passed a Bill that Minister for Education Heng Swee Keat said gives more young Singaporeans a wider choice in pursuing a degree here.

Mr Heng said there will be up to 200 places in SIT's three new Engineering and Accounting programmes this year.

With the passing of the Bill, SIT will now be able to award degrees, and confer diplomas and certificates.

It empowers the government to guide the strategic developments of SIT towards meeting national objectives.

The Bill also allows the government to provide resources to SIT and monitor the performance and finances of the institution.

Mr Heng said that is to ensure accountability for the use of public funds.

Singapore's four other autonomous universities are the National University of Singapore, Nanyang Technological University, Singapore Management University and Singapore University of Technology and Design.