

# NITK alumnus secures AIR 1 in UPSC engg services exam

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HIMANSHU Thapliyal, an alumnus of the 2023 batch from the M Tech course in Nanotechnology at NITK Surathkal, has secured All India Rank (AIR) 1 in the UPSC Engineering Services Examination.

Thapliyal, born in Uttarakhand and raised in Lucknow, began his academic journey with a JEE rank of 5,83,000. He pursued a B Tech in Electronics and Communication at NPSEI, Pithoragarh, and, cracked GATE to join his dream M Tech program at NIT Karnataka in Nanotechnology (2021–2023).

Himanshu shared his aspirations to join the Indian Telecom Services, stating, “With this rank, I can finally achieve that goal. My focus now is on understanding the system and identifying the boundaries within which I can operate. Once I have



a clear grasp of these, I aim to give back to society in any way I can.”

Reflecting on his journey, Himanshu said, “Initially, it was very difficult for me to decide what I truly wanted to do in life. The whole idea of getting into NITK was to gain exposure, meet diverse friends, and figure out my path. I feel grateful that I chose the right college at the right time in my life.”

He also offered advice to UPSC aspirants: “Your time at NITK is incredibly valuable, so make the most of it and enjoy every moment. Balancing your studies with UPSC preparation is crucial. Don’t miss out on the events and activities—maintain a balance and stay disciplined in everything you do.”

Himanshu acknowledged the solid support of his parents, Lakshmi and Shambhu, his teachers, Tripti and Gururaj, and his friends. He emphasised, “This achievement is as much theirs as it is mine, and I am forever grateful, and also to the faculty members of the Department of Metallurgical and Materials Engineering NITK.”