

# IIT-Indore sets up centre to study Narmada river basin management

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

**Indore:** Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Indore has established a dedicated centre to conduct study on Narmada river basin management focussing on sustainable practices to preserve the river's health and address critical challenges faced by the River basin.

IIT's study is part of the memorandum of understanding (MoU) signed between Ministry of Jal Shakti and many academic institutions of the country of which IIT-I is one of them, under National River Conservation Plan.

An area of around 1,000 km of the Narmada river in Madhya Pradesh will be mapped and a team of professors from IIT-I will conduct various studies on the river basin.



File Picture

An area of 1,000 km of Narmada river in MP will be mapped. A team of profs from IIT-Indore will conduct studies on the river basin

The team will conduct studies on erosion hotspots, flood prone areas, sewerage and drainage network plan among other challenges faced for conservation and water related challenges.

The centre was inaugurated on July 14 in the presence of Dr Sameer V Kamat, secretary, department of Defence R&D and DRDO chairman and Dr K Sivan, chair-

person, BOG IIT Indore.

Professor Suhas S Joshi, director, IIT Indore said "We will bring experts, practitioners, and academicians under one roof to foster a collaborative environment to address the pressing issues faced in the conservation plan of the Narmada river basin. We need to have integrated management approaches and the active involvement of local communities to preserve this vital water resource."

During the inauguration, a prototype in the form of 3-D model of Narmada river basin was presented to help illustrate various complexities and challenges in mapping and protecting the basin environment. Scientific studies done on Narmada basin were also demonstrated to the dignitaries.

"Projects like these would directly help the society in terms of environment restoration and commercial river activities," said Sivan.

The institute also hosted a one-day workshop to shed light on the critical issues faced by the Narmada river basin and to discuss potential solutions through expert lectures and collaborative discussions. The workshop focussed on communitarian ecosystem restoration in the Narmada river basin with special reference to Alirajpur district, Community-led campaign to revive Narmada, importance of forest commons in the Narmada basin, water conservation, rainwater harvesting & groundwater rejuvenation activities and environmental concerns in Narmada river basin.