

₹100cr Tech Innovation Hub To Come Up At IIT-Indore

Institute Secures Highest-Ever Research Grant

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Indore: Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Indore has secured its highest-ever single grant of Rs 100 crore from department of science and technology for setting up a Technology Innovation Hub (TIH) aimed at creating an ecosystem for development and commercialisation. The upcoming technology hub will be based on system simulation, modelling and visualization aspects of Cyber-Physical Systems (CPS). The TIH will work on extending knowledge and support for research and development projects, patenting, licencing and commercialisation besides holding training sessions and online courses.

Dr. Pavan Kumar Kankar, faculty IIT, Indore said "Through TIH, we plan to lead in skill enhancement, technology development, and product commercialization in the domain of Cyber Physical Systems (CPS). The objective is to create an

CRADLE FOR EXCELLENCE

➤ TIH will work on system simulation, modelling and visualization aspects of Cyber-Physical Systems (CPS)

➤ TIH will work on the development of skilled human resources by organizing knowledge sharing and training activities, hands-on training, webinars, events, workshops, grand challenges, conferences, hackathons, online courses and tinkering activities

➤ TIH will support the flagship initiatives of the Government of India such as SkillIndia (SI), Make in India (MII), Prime Minister's Employment Generation Program (PMEGP), Start-up India and the recently coined Atmanirbhar Bharat



ecosystem that supports the development and commercialization of technologies facilitating modelling, simulation, and visualization of CPS."

Talking about future objective of the hub, Kankar said, "The objective will be achieved in the true sense when a self-sustaining system is created over a period of time to support R&D projects, patenting, licencing and commercialisation, incubation of startup companies and spin-offs, and initiation of joint projects with the industry."

The externally funded grant, maximum in 11 years

of existence of IIT-Indore, was an outcome of a rigorous evaluation of the proposals under National Mission on Interdisciplinary Cyber Physical Systems (NM-ICPS), the institute said.

Kankar said, "A proposal on a technology hub based on CPS was put together by a core interdisciplinary team of 8 faculty members and was sent to NMICPS with detailed objectives. The core team was ably supported by domain experts both within and outside the institute."

The proposal was named "Driving innovation through Simulation Hub for

Technologies in Interdisciplinary cyber physical system (DRISHTI)".

The panel included Dr Pavan Kumar Kankar, Dr Bhupesh Kumar Lad, Prof Abhinav Kranti, Dr Abhishek Srivastava, Prof Sandeep Chaudhary, Dr Ankur Miglani, Dr Bhargav Vaidya and Dr Kiran Bala.

Highlighting the reach of CPS, Kankar said, "Most modern systems today have a digital presence, in addition to being extensively interconnected via Internet of Things (IoT) deployments. Such systems, popularly known as CPS, are capable of taking autonomous decisions using data analytics and artificial intelligence. There has been a rapid proliferation of CPS in lives of human beings."

Members of the board of governors (BoG) of IIT Indore, BoG chairman Prof Deepak B Phatak and officiating director Prof Neelesh Kumar Jain have lauded the efforts of the core team and other faculty members involved in preparing the highly competitive project proposal for NM-ICPS and ensured full support of the institute for its implementation in BoG meeting.