

# IIT-Indore, MPCOST ink pact for research in astronomy

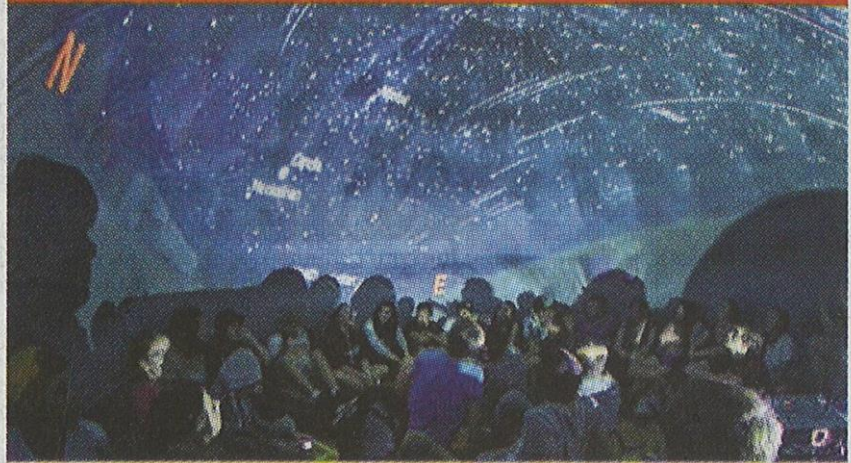
OUR STAFF REPORTER  
Indore

Indian Institute of Technology Indore and Madhya Pradesh Council of Science and Technology (MPCOST) on Thursday inked a memorandum of understanding (MoU) to collaborate in research, communication and education in the field of astronomy and astrophysics.

The MoU was signed between IIT Indore officiating director Neelesh Kumar Jain and MPCOST director general Dr Anil Kothari.

On the occasion, Kothari stated that courses related to astronomy will be started and winter schools, seminars etc will be organised by the two organisations. "Students of IIT Indore will be made participants in the programmes of Ujjain planetarium. Co-operation of students of IIT Indore will be taken in the creation of planetary based cosmological programmes," he said. The DG also said that the two institutes will collaborate on joint research projects in astrophysics, particularly in optical astronomy. "Astronomical observations of

## MOBILE PLANETARIUM TO COME UP AT THE PREMIER INSTITUTE



Varahamihir Observatory at Dongla will be controlled through IIT at Indore," he added. Similarly, there will be cooperation in the field of software development, automation of data analysis domes and astronomical photography of cosmic objects. Kothari

also stated that a mobile planetarium is proposed to be set up in IIT Indore with the technical support of MPCOST. "The purpose of establishing mobile constellations is to generate interest in astronomy among the students," he added.