IIT-Indore, Cambridge varsity win tech contest

INDORE: A joint team of IIT-Indore and Institute for Manufacturing, University of Cambridge bagged the first prize in the National Technical Institutes Competition 2016 held in Pune on Friday.

The team won the prize for its project titled 'Smart Manufacturing' at the Manufacturing Today Awards & Conference 2016. The project aims to apply technology to build machines with artificial intelligence so as to accelerate bulk manufacturing procedures and make India a manufacturing powerhouse.

The project, being carried out under the partnership of FICCI and UK' Royal Academy of Engineering, focuses on capacity building in collaborative research for advanced manufacturing. Students of IIT-Indore also got the chance to be mentored by the faculty of University of Cambridge under this project.

This project finds its place under the Newton Bhabha fund which builds science, innovation and research and development ties between India and The UK and is sponsored by both the governments.

Team members Karthich S, research fellow, Newton Bhabha Project; Vaibhav Bedi, Project Staff, Newton Bhabha Project and Vibhore Pandhare, M Tech, IIT Indore and research associate at IIT-Mumbai presented the project under the mechanical engineering department of IIT-Indore.

The research work is focused on developing a system that enables embedded intelligence in manufacturing equipment through effective data gathering, communication, analytics and decision making capabilities. The team demonstrated their research using 3D printing technology, computational and sensing infrastructures. Representatives of TATA Motors, JCB, Nokia and Mahindra appreciated the research work at the conference.

"A number of MNCs have showed interest in collaboration with IIT Indore," said Dr Nirmala Menon, faculty-media coordinator IIT-Indore. "We wish to enable the recognition and adoption of smart manufacturing paradigm within India's manufacturing sector," stated Dr Bhupesh Lad, assistant professor (Mechanical engineering) IIT-Indore and a faculty in the project. **NIDA KHAN**