

**MASSIVE MAKEOVER ON ANVIL AS CITY GETS SET TO GREET DELEGATES OF HOTEL INDUSTRY | 4**

**VIGILANCE CRACKDOWN ON PEONS WHO HAVE...**

## IIT to train science teachers of Plus II

### MoU To Be Signed With Dept Of Higher Edu

Ashok Pradhan  
@timesgroup.com



Sanjib Das

The director of IIT Bhubaneswar, R V Rajakumar (centre), addresses a press conference in Bhubaneswar on Friday

**Bhubaneswar:** IIT Bhubaneswar plans to conduct short-term refresher courses for Plus II science teachers to improve the quality of college education in the state, director R V Rajakumar said here on Friday.

Addressing a news conference ahead of the institute's fourth convocation here, Rajakumar said the state government had approached the IIT to formulate modules and conduct such training courses.

"We are in the process of signing a memorandum of understanding with the department of higher education of Odisha shortly," the IIT director said.

Rajakumar said these would be short-term courses to be held during vacations. Teachers selected by the state government can attend the periodic training modules in batches, he said.

"The move aims to improve the quality of teaching to bring in on a par with the best in the world. As of now, there is no continuing training programme for teachers in Odisha," he said.

Through the faculty development programmes, improvement in the intermediate teaching standards in science would help students in the state compete better at na-

**Improvement in the intermediate teaching standards in science would help students in the state compete better at national-level examinations such as entrance for IITs and other national institutions of repute**

tional-level examinations such as entrance for IITs and other national institutions of repute, the director said.

Human resource development minister Smriti Zubin Irani is scheduled to attend the IIT convocation, being held for the first time on its permanent campus on the foothills of Barunei hills at Argul village near Jatni, 30 km from here.

The elite institute has started partially functioning from the permanent campus since July though most of its activities are still spread out across six transit locations in



various parts of Bhubaneswar.

The director said the institute would confer degrees on 12 PhD scholars, 44 MTech, 50 MSc and 109 BTech graduates. The institute has selected Sushant Sachan (mechanical stream), for the President of India Gold Medal for best academic performance among the BTech students.

At present, the institute has 1,038 students, including 589 BTech students and 100 full-time faculty members for its seven schools. It offers BTech in five disciplines, MTech in nine and MSc in five disciplines.