

## New hostels inaugurated at IIT



### ● Express Features

**T**wo students' hostels were inaugurated at IIT Bhubaneswar last Monday. Inaugurated by Odisha Governor professor Ganeshi Lal, the hostels are a part of the institute's phase II expansion. Having the capacity to accommodate 800 students, the hostel for boys has been named as Brahma Putra Halls of Residence. The girls' hostel or 'Ganga Halls of Residence' has 400 seats.

During the phase 1 expansion, the institute constructed a 800-seater hostel for boys and 200-seater hostel for girls. Earlier, the institute had utilised the hostel facilities of nearby institutes to accommodate the students. With the inauguration of the new hostels, the problem of housing will be solved for the institute.

The institute now has 2200 hostel seats. Sources in the institute revealed that one more hostel will be built on its campus soon.

According to director R V Rajakumar, the institute had received ₹1270 crore from the government for its infrastructure development. The fund included ₹850 crore for infrastructure development in the second phase.

He also added that under the phase I expansion, the institute had constructed four school buildings while in the second phase it came up with three school buildings, including School of Earth, Ocean and Climate Sciences, (SEOCS), School of Humanities, Social Sciences and Management and School of Minerals and Metallurgical and Material Engineering (SMME).

Besides, construction work is in progress for a huge lecture hall complex with a capacity of accommodating 6500 students along with one more boys' hostel, a multi-purpose hostel, central research facility, central workshop, faculty quarters block, staff block, directors bungalow, student activity centre, playgrounds, auditorium, amphitheatre, two commercial complexes, dispensary, sewage treatment plant, sewage network, and external development that includes beautification work.

IIT campus is spread over 936 acres at Argul near the Capital City. The institute started functioning in 2008 from a temporary campus before it shifted to the present campus at the foot of historical Barunei Hills in Khurda district.