

OPTCL-IIT pact for power sector devt

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Bhubaneswar, Jan 30: State public sector undertaking Odisha Power Transmission Corporation Limited (OPTCL) has signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Bhubaneswar for the establishment of OPTCL Chair in the premier engineering institute.

It is indeed a historic moment for Odisha to collaborate with a premier institute like IIT for development of power sector in the state, Energy Minister DS Mishra said.

"We are happy to know that IIT is not only confined to academic service but also extended its arm for the development of the state. This industry-institute interface will be a win-win situation for both with regards to research and development," Mishra said.

The MoU was signed Friday.

He said this cooperation will enhance the technical knowhow.

OPTCL chairman Sourav Garg

said that IIT would be a troubleshooter for various technical issues surfacing in the power sector. It is a dream come true and we feel proud to collaborate with the best brains of the nation.



The students from IIT will have practical exposure on the real-time projects, at the same time OPTCL engineers will have an opportunity to interact with IITians and enhance their knowledge in the process, Garg said.

"Apart from education, IIT-Bhubaneswar is committed to the local area and social development through structured intervention. This Chair will act as an extended arm of the R & D wing for the Odisha power sector," IIT Bhubaneswar Director Prof R V Raja Kumar said.

Ragunath Pratihari, Director (HRD) OPTCL, emphasised on the importance of collaboration in modern development scenarios. "This OPTCL Chair will enable a common platform to address issues with regard to both academics and industry," he said.