

Varsities help in sea study

ANWESHAAMBALY

Bhubaneswar: A number of universities from across the country have expressed interest to provide equipment for the Bay of Bengal Coastal Observatory to be set up by the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Bhubaneswar.

The institute has approached over 50 universities, including the Berhampur University, to set it up as a national facility. Around eight varsities have already confirmed to lend a helping hand.

The IIT had signed an MoU in New Delhi in August 2015 with the ministry of earth sciences to set up the observatory.

“A number of educational institutions have come forward to help us in the cause pondering on the importance it has for the nation. Once completed, it will boost studies in the field and also provide chance to them for research and development,” said institute director R.V. Raja Kumar.

The facility for research

will be helpful in understanding air-sea-land interactions, prediction of extreme events, marine seismology and sea-level rise due to climate change and ocean acidification and so on. It can be used to monitor ocean, earth and climatic parameters and systems.



Delegates at an IIT convocation in Bhubaneswar. Picture by Ashwinee Pati

The state government has identified 40 acres for the centre at Laudigaon village. “Because of the demarcation issues, the work got delayed. But now, it is on,” he said.

The seventh convocation ceremony of the institution will be held on Saturday.