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State-run universities & colleges to get e-libraries

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Bhubaneswar: The state higher education department has decided to set up e-book libraries in different state-run universities and colleges to encourage the students and the faculty to read.

According to the plan, the universities and autonomous colleges will submit their proposals to the state government for sanction of funds so that the digitisation of reading resources can be taken up.

Utkal University has already built a separate building for the same and is in the process of digitising the resources to make them available for students.

"We have already set up the building and are in the process of digitising the reading resources in the library. There are some funds issues about which we have intimated the government," Soumendra Patnaik, vice-chancellor of Utkal University, said.

He added that they had identified three kinds of resources for digitisation. "There will be journals, frontline books of the last three years and all-time classics. All these will be made available in our e-library," the VC said.

The e-book library is an electronic platform where books are available digitally and can be accessed by both the students and faculty members through a personal computer or smartphone or ebook reader.

BETTER RESOURCES

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der. At present, the National Institute of Science Education and Research, Indian Institute of Technology, Bhubaneswar, and Odisha State Open University have e-library facilities.

"The e-library will save publications for a longer period of time. This will greatly help readers. We have asked colleges and universities to submit their proposals so that the students have access to e-libraries soon," a higher education department official said.

Sushree Mohanty, a student of Rama Devi Women's University, said such a facility was the need of the hour. "E-libraries will help us read several books simultaneously. Now, we have to wait to get books issued from the library or for books already taken up by someone else. Once the facility is in place, it will be a lot easier to read more than one book at a time," Mohanty said.