

IIT Bhubaneswar collaborates with foreign institutes for 11 research projects

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IIT Bhubaneswar, in a fine example of leading from the front, has collaborated with several foreign universities for 11 research projects, under the SPARC program introduced by the MHRD.

Out of the twenty five proposals submitted by the institute, eleven have been approved whereas the review process is going for the other projects. As per the reports, the approved projects have received a technical consent and sanction of Rs. 6, 18, 37,534.

For the uninitiated, the Ministry of Human Resources Development recently embarked upon an ambitious program, “The Scheme for Promotion of Academic and Research Collaboration” (SPARC).

The program is aimed at further improving the academic and research collaborations between Indian Institutions and the best of institutions in the world to jointly solve problems of national and/or international relevance.

Under the scheme, IIT Kharagpur has been given the responsibility to discharge the duty of national co-coordinator with other reputed institutes of India. It has invited a number of proposals from all IIT's across India.

With a total budget of Rs 418 Crores, SPARK plans to aid nearly 600 such joint collaborations across 100 Indian Institutions over the span of two years. The distinguish features of SPARC initiative are visits and long-term stay of top international faculty / researchers in Indian institutions to pursue teaching and research and visits by Indian students for training and experimentation in premier laboratories worldwide.

Appreciating the government's initiative, Prof. R.V Raja Kumar, Director, IIT Bhubaneswar, said, "The objective of the SPARC program is very noble, it will certainly enable us in forging new relationships with reputed research groups across the globe and I complement the Ministry for providing this kind of an opportunity to the Institutions. As you may be aware, MHRD has been constantly encouraging the IIT's to further progress to find place in the top global class of Institutes."