

IISER signs campus MoU

To Be Completed By July 2010

Anand Bodh/ TNN

Mohali: Indian Institute of Science Education and Research (IISER) has signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with the Central Public Works Department (CPWD) to execute the construction of its campus at Knowledge City, Sector 81.

Coming up as fully residential campus on 125 acres of land, the campus will have administrative and academic blocks, staff quarters and eight hostels. In the first phase, two out of the eight hostels with a capacity of 254 residents each, central analytical facility (labs) and boundary wall would be constructed. IISER has already released 33% of the total amount and construction would start by the end of October. According to institute authorities, the campus would be completed by July 2010, after which the strength would be increased to 2000 students, 200 teachers and 220 non-teaching staff.

Dr Jagdeep Singh, coordinator, IISER, Mohali, said construction of hostels and central analytical facility would be completed within one-and-a-half years, after which the campus would be shifted in phases to Mohali. An architect from Lucknow prepared master plan of the campus, which has been submitted to GGMADA for final approval. Structural designs of the individual

More manpower

Apart from initiating construction of the campus, IISER has also started the recruitment process. Various posts under the non-teaching category — deputy librarian, executive engineer-cum-estate officer, assistant registrar, scientific officer, assistant engineers, library information assistant, accountant besides others — have been advertised and the last date to apply is October 30.

buildings would be submitted separately. CPWD is going to float the tenders shortly and work would be allotted to contractors within a month, he added.

Prime Minister Manmohan Singh had laid the foundation stone of IISER on September 27, 2006, to carry out research in frontier areas of science and to provide quality science education at undergraduate and postgraduate levels. At present, IISER is running from its transit campus at Mahatma Gandhi State Institute of Public Administration (MGSIPA), Sector-26, Chandigarh, where 80 students of Master of Science (MS) programme, seven from PhD and one from post-doctoral programme are enrolled.

Residents oppose running nano institute from habitat centre

Mohali: The Greater Mohali Area Development Authority (GMADA) decision to allow National Institute of Nano-Science and Technology (NINT) to start functioning from the habitat centre has the residents up in arms as they claim that this is against the earlier decision of using the facility as a community centre. GMADA has allowed the institute to use habitat centre on payment basis. Citizen Welfare Council, Phase X, Mohali, has condemned the decision of hand over the habitat centre to NINT for using it as its camp office till the completion of its own building, which may take many years.

During the special meeting convened on Wednesday, members alleged that GMADA authorities have betrayed the residents. During the foundation stone laying ceremony of the habitat centre, the then housing minister Raghunath Sahaipuri, then municipal council president Kulwant Singh and GMADA officials had declared that the centre would emerge as a hub for social activities of the locality.

Ranjivan Singh, media secretary of the council, in a statement on Wednesday claimed that on March 13 this year, the council had submitted a memorandum to chief administrator, GMADA, Vivek Partap Singh, for opening the habitat centre for public since it was lying unutilized for last many years after its completion. The council has decided to meet GMADA CA, to reiterate the demands failing which mass awareness movement will be initiated," he said. TNN