

IIT-K to start genomics laboratory facility

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IIT Kharagpur is going to start a genomics laboratory facility for students from all the branches of engineering. The primary objective of this laboratory will be to teach all the students at the second year the basic techniques of life sciences that will include microscopy-based observation, molecular biology, protein structure and function and lastly, bioinformatics.

The third year onwards, they will be allowed to plan and execute experiments by their own under the mentorship of faculties from Biotechnology, Bioscience, Chemistry, Medical Science and Technology and Computer Science and Engineering.

The lab will be running 24x7 and be equipped with all the essential equipments needed for cell and molecular biology, biochemistry, sequencing facility, microscopy facility, etc.

Though there are few laboratories of similar nature abroad, this will be the first time of its kind in India. The lab will be headed by Sudip K. Ghosh of the Biotechnology Department at the institute.

In addition to the genomics laboratory, IIT Kharagpur also plans to collaborate with Tata Medical Centre in education, research and outreach programmes in the field of interdisciplinary medical research.

The primary objective is to promote interaction and collaboration between faculty, medical professionals and students of the two institutions to carry out joint academic and research programmes, joint supervision of undergraduate, masters and doctoral students on a reciprocal basis, and collaborative research projects.