

Good news for tech students in Orissa

# Edusat comes into orbit

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE

Bhubaneswar, Dec 12: Come January and technical students would have a lot to cheer about. For, the technical institutes will be ready to uplink to Edusat, India's first satellite for education.

The engineering colleges have been directed to set up satellite interactive terminals (SITs) at their ends to be able to uplink with Edusat and the main hub centre at Cuttack once the installations are complete.

The Directorate of Technical Education and Training (DTET) has placed order with the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) for a high power transmitter. It will cost Rs 1 crore. The ISRO currently has just three such transmitters, two of which have been booked by Tamil Nadu and Maharashtra. Orissa is expecting the invoice from the ISRO by the end of the month.

"The state-of-the-art trans-

mitter will be the first one to be installed in the entire Eastern India," Director, DTET, R.N. Das said.

Once put in place, students sitting in the lab of any institute of Orissa will be able to directly interact with a group of subject experts. They will

the job of developing content for the satellite education curriculum and selecting teachers who would be given the task of imparting education.

The content will be in two languages — English and Oriya. Diploma students would have the curriculum in Oriya, while it would be in English for degree engineering students. Das said BPUT is currently drawing up a list of subjects which would form the curriculum. Subjects which are weak areas of students are being selected by a group of experts. The subjects are being selected on the basis of semester results.

DTET is planning to make teachers familiar with gadgets which they would be using when the satellite education commences. Two orientation programmes are scheduled for them during January.

The hub centre for the entire programme will be set up at Biju Patnaik Film and Television Institute at Cuttack.



have an option to identify and improve upon their weak areas. Each institute will have to spend about Rs 2.5 lakh to set up the SIT. For State-run engineering institutes, the State Government will bear the cost.

The Biju Patnaik University of Technology (BPUT) has already been entrusted with