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TCS to set up R&D centre in IIIT Hyderabad



The Rs 20 crore facility will carry out research on Intelligent Systems

Tata Consultancy Services is establishing a research institution in the name of FC Kohli Center on Intelligence Systems (KCIS) at IIIT Hyderabad which will act as an umbrella organisation at IIIT to strengthen existing groups and facilitate new activities. This centre will also attract projects and funding from other entities in the government and industry sectors, coordinate research in related domains across different centres of IIIT Hyderabad and its research collaborations with other academia.

P J Narayanan, director, IIIT Hyderabad told Metro India, “TCS will be supporting us with Rs 20 crore fund towards this centre. The new centre will impart training to bachelors, masters and doctoral students. Already efforts are on to begin the research in the identified areas and once the new building will be ready for the centre in next 6-8 months, all activities will be operational at this exclusive centre. The activity will be ongoing and further support will be sought from TCS in the long run.”

He said, IIIT Hyderabad has emerged as one of the largest academic incubators for start-ups in India with several start-ups utilising the ecosystem facilitated at the campus. At present there are

at least 50 start-ups operating in the incubator. T-Hub is also coming up at the campus which will boost entrepreneurship to new levels.

N Chandrasekaran, CEO and MD of Tata Consultancy Services (TCS), said, “The KCIS will carry out high impact research in intelligent systems, which is a critical area for carrying out sustainable innovation in topics such as natural language processing, robotics and cognitive sciences.”

Narayanan and Chandrasekaran exchanged a MoU towards cooperation of establishing the centre at IIIT Hyderabad funded by TCS. The centre will also focus on entrepreneurship promotion in the Intelligent Systems area as start-up companies can transform the research in the academic labs to benefit society. The centre will be based in Himalaya Block with 60,000 sq ft of built up area for research related activities.

Speaking on the occasion, K T Rama Rao, IT and Panchayat Raj minister, said, research is the base for innovation and IIIT Hyderabad with the help of KCIS should work on applied research so that commercial benefits from innovation can be derived. Cyrus P Mistry, chairman of Tata Sons, said, Hyderabad has evolved as one of the major technology hubs in India and will continue to contribute to IT even in future.