

IIT-K plans to light up a few villages

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KANPUR: The Indian Institute of Technology (IIT-K) is all set to give unique gifts to neighbouring rural areas, scientists and citizen during the year-long Golden Jubilee Celebrations beginning tomorrow. One such gift is solar power.

Talking to newsmen here on Friday, Director of IIT-K Dr Sanjay G Dhande said that the scientists at the Institute had drawn up an ambitious plan to

provide power to at least three or four neighbouring villages.

The IIT- Board of Governors had approved a proposal of setting up a 500 KW solar energy plant in the Institute to supply power to the Institute and also the rural areas adjacent to it, he said.

A detailed project report (DPR) was on the anvil. It was expected that the work on the project would begin from December 2009 and would be completed within four years.

The Department of Science



■ IIT-K Director Prof. Sanjay G Dhande addressing a press conference.

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and Technology (DST) would extend financial assistance for

the project, he added.

Deputy director Dr RK Thareja said that setting up of the solar power plant was not a problem. The only difficulty was that the cost of per unit of power was very high. The scientists at the Institute were making researches to lower the cost to make it viable.

Dr Dhande said that the next thrust would be on expediting the projects of developing sensors for healthcare and identifying the pollution levels.

The project was being joint-

ly shared by the biotechnology and electrical departments.

He said the engineers had succeeded in establishing a pseudo-dynamic laboratory to monitor seismic activities. It was likely to operate during the current year, he added.

"We are running Opportunity Schools for deprived children and the students are imparting them technical training. Our aim is to increase such social service with the assistance of the district authorities," he said.