

Demystifying the changing mood of monsoon

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KANPUR: Scientists at the Indian Institute of Technology, Kanpur (IIT-K) will conduct a study on changing moods of the Indian monsoon and reasons affecting its behaviour from time to time.

The study will be conducted under the prestigious "The Monsoon Mission of India" project of the Union ministry for earth sciences.

Noted scientist of the civil engineering department and coordinator of the centre for environmental science and engineering at the IIT-K, Dr SN Tripathi, who has been designated principal investigator of the project,

said the study would be conducted under three different sub-projects by the IIT-K, IISc, Bengaluru and Vikram Sarabhai Space Centre (VSSC) in association with the National Environmental Research Council (NERC) of United Kingdom (UK).

"To understand the monsoon behaviour, the first flux measurement tower in the Indo-Gangetic basin will be set up on the IIT-K campus behind Hall 10 and 11 in the area full of natural vegetation. A two-member team from the Centre for Ecology and Hydrology, UK visited the site recently and declared it fit for erecting the flux tower," Dr Tripathi added.

Work on the flux tower is expected to be completed by May end this year.

"The multi-crore project will be completed by April 2018 and about 10 prominent Indian and as many UK institutes will participate in it to study monsoon behaviour," Dr Tripathi said.

About the three different sub-projects, he said, "The first project relates to the study of 'Land and Atmosphere Exchanges' that will aim at identifying land conditions determining congenial and non-congenial conditions for change in monsoon behaviour will be taken up jointly by scientists of the IIT-K and NERC."

The second sub-project on

'Air and Ocean Exchange' will be taken up by scientists of the IISc, Bengaluru in association with the NERC.

"In this, the scientists will conduct detailed study about air and ocean behaviour in different ecological conditions and their impact upon the climatic conditions," said Dr Tripathi.

The study of constituents of air in the atmosphere will be conducted under the third sub-project by the Vikram Sarabhai Space Centre (VSSC).

"The compiled report of all the three sub-projects will be submitted to the ministry of earth sciences at the end of the whole project," Dr Tripathi added.