

A Centre of Geospatial Excellence



today's technology driven environment we cannot afford to leave the added advantage of understanding 'Location Intelligence' that will make our students career ready for GIS opportunities," said Prof. Ajoy Kumar Ray, Director, IEST, Shibpur. He adds, "GIS goes beyond what users know of maps. It brings out the importance and value of the location in every business scenario. Students would be able to understand the multi-disciplinary nature of GIS and also its applications in various domains."

A collaboration between Esri India and Indian Institute of Engineering Science and Technology, Shibpur.

According to a report by the National Task Force on Geospatial Education (under the Ministry of Human Resource Development of the Government of India), India has less than 31,000 GIS professionals as against a requirement of 70,000. There are very few institutions in the country providing geospatial education, resulting in a serious shortfall in the availability of trained GIS professionals.

Tapping this deficit, Esri India Technologies and Indian Institute of Engineering Science and Tech-

nology (IEST), Shibpur, on October 5, 2017 in collaboration announced the launch of Centre of Geospatial Excellence (CoGE) in the eastern region. The centre aims to impart GIS skills to graduates and working professionals through a set of short and long-term programmes that are co-designed with senior faculty members from IEST and domain experts from Esri India. These programmes will focus on foundational geoinformatics and its applications in various government programmes, like Smart Cities, Digital India and Clean Ganga.

Agendra Kumar, President, Esri India said, "Esri India acknowledges the urgent need for geospatial skills in India which are critical for country's transformation and, together with the educational institutions, aims to impart geospatial education to help industry overcome the talent deficit in GIS."

"We have achieved an important milestone with this collaboration. In

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About IEST

In March 2014, Bengal Engineering and Science University, Shibpur was taken over by the Government of India and converted into an 'Institute of National Importance' and renamed as Indian Institute of Engineering Science and Technology, Shibpur. IEST, Shibpur offers various technical and non-technical graduate, post-graduate and PhD courses.

Infrastructure

Having a rich history, IEST, Shibpur has a lush green campus with state-of-the-art amenities. The Centre is equipped with best of software and hardware related to GIS and remote sensing and gives an all-round perspective on the GIS technology.

Faculty

IEST takes pride in having the best faculty in the domain on board and CoGE is not an exception. The faculty members associated with the Centre are the best in the industry with years of experience in the domain. ◆