

DRDO leaps forward



Jan. 4: The Indian Institute of Technology Madras Research Park will soon have a 30,000 sq ft exclusive research and development centre that will be set up by the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO). “This will be a unique R&D centre with continuity of research as the main focus. Though we have research arrangements with various universities and educational establishments, this is the first of its kind collaborative research programme in the country,” Mr. V. K. Saraswat, director-general, DRDO, said here on Tuesday. He was interacting with journalists after addressing the delegates of the 98th edition of the Indian Science Congress.

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V.K.Saraswat
Director general, DRDO

He said the new R&D centre to be set up at IITM Research Park would focus on research activities in materials science, manufacturing, nano science and aerospace engineering. “We have conceived it in such a way that even if the young graduates working on the project leave mid-way, the activities would continue without delay,” said Mr. Saraswat.

DRDO will soon launch its marketing arm along the lines of Antrix Corporation of the Indian Space Research Organisation.

“The spectrum of our products is very high and we are getting enquiries even from paramilitary forces. Some of the products have to be built specially for the customers and we feel this is the right moment to launch a marketing wing,” he said. DRDO expects annual sales of `70 crore through its civilian spin-off products.



Mr. S. Radhakrishnan, Director, Technology Management, said DRDO had formed an alliance with the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry to transfer technology to civilian industries.

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