

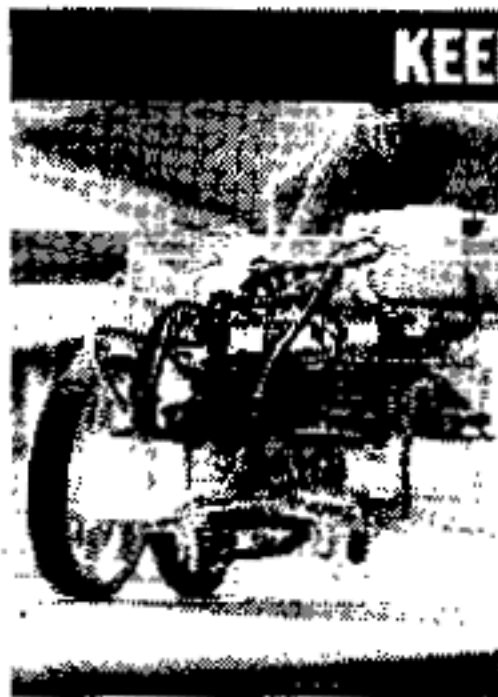
MU may introduce robotics in engineering courses

Santosh Andhale

The University of Mumbai (MU) is working on an ambitious project to introduce robotics as a subject in engineering courses. The project, called 'E Yantra', is being developed with the help of experts from the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Bombay.

The university administration has called a meeting of principals from top 15 engineering colleges and faculty from the computer science department on May 13 to discuss how the project can be implemented in colleges. Experts from IIT will also be present.

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neering colleges through a series of workshops.

Dr Rajpal Hande, director, Board of College and University Development at MU, said: "In modern times, there is a need to use robotic tools in the educational field. Most of the developed countries have already started using robotics in teaching. Through the E Yantra project, we will also lay down a plan to use robotics for teaching in our engineering colleges. The intention is to create a hub-and-spoke model for the delivery of content and expertise to college. We will

first train faculty of the hub institutes in the use of our robots and our content." The robotics course will be for students who have graduated in mechanical, electrical, instrumentation or computer engineering with an interest in robotics and artificial intelligence.

According to sources, candidates with a masters degree in robotics will be able to work in space research organisations and in companies that manufacture microchips. Job opportunities also exist in IIT for conducting extensive research in artificial intelligence.