

## **DIAT to introduce new course in fire engineering**

Pune: The Defence Institute of Advanced Technology, a deemed university promoted by Defence Research and Development Organisation, on Tuesday announced that it will introduce a diploma course in Fire Engineering and Integrated Safety Management from July this year.

DIAT vice-chancellor Surendra Pal told reporters that the course will be in tune with the requirements of armed forces as well as public sector undertakings and DRDO establishments. The new course is meant for officers and men from the armed forces, PSUs and DRDO units.

A distinguished space communication technologist, Pal said, "The DIAT will collaborate with the Centre for Fire, Explosive and Environmental Safety (CFEES), a premier DRDO lab in Delhi, to conduct the course, which will have a trimester pattern over a year-long duration. The third semester will be entirely based on practical and on field experience."

Pal said, "Fire accidents are a major safety concern in industry, armed forces and even in our daily lives. Avoiding these accidents has to be the top priority, but if they take place, maximum efforts have to be made to minimise the damage to life and property. Our armed forces, PSUs and industries are vulnerable to such accidents and we have to respond to specific requirements from these agencies."

Pal said, "The DIAT has plans to expand the scope, increase the duration of the course in future and induct candidates from other streams. The course will have modules on nuclear, chemical, electrical, and thermal disasters. There will be computer aided modelling which will help students understand the subject. The third trimester will be conducted with the help of CFEES and will be completely practical oriented."

### **Convocation ceremony on May 31**

Defence minister Manohar Parrikar will be the chief guest at the DIAT's eighth convocation ceremony, which is to be held on May 31. Secretary to defence (R&D) S Christopher, who also heads the DIAT governing council, will be the guest of honour. A total of 141 students would be conferred with degrees at the convocation. This includes 23 PhDs, eight Master of Science degrees and 110 MTech degrees in Aerospace Engineering, Electronics Engineering; Mechanical Engineering; Computer Science and Engineering; Materials Engineering, Applied Mathematics, Physics, Chemistry, Biotechnology and Technology Management.