IIT Delhi signed MoA with Bihar State Pollution Control Board

The Bihar State Pollution Control Board has signed a 'Memorandum of Agreement' (MoA) with IIT Delhi on 8th August 2020 for setting up of geographical information system (GIS) based platform for air quality management in the state. Prof. Sagnik Dey, from Centre for Atmospheric Sciences and Coordinator CERCA IITD, will be leading this project with his counterpart Mr. S.N Jayaswal of Bihar State Pollution Control Board, Patna.

This project will help in identifying sources and transport of PM 2.5 at a "very high resolution" and help the board to identify "effective mitigation measures". It will also help to determine the local hot spot of particulate matter PM 2.5 in the non-attainment cities in Bihar, namely Patna, Gaya, and Muzaffarpur.

The mapping will be done at a "very high resolution" of one square km using satellite and ground-based measurement systems. These maps will help in developing a strategy to minimize exposure with the help of modelling and survey. Further, using satellite data, the study will identify the districts and villages where open burning is prevalent. Additionally, a detailed air mass trajectory analysis will be carried out to determine the transport path of air pollution to the non-attainment cities. A weekly pollution build-up can also be examined to identify the critical pollution period.

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