

NITK Surathkal will mentor 50 girl students under Vigyan Jyoti

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Mangaluru: The premier technical institute NITK Surathkal has been chosen to mentor about 50 girl students from JNV, Hassan, under a programme titled Vigyan Jyoti, empowering girls in Science Technology Engineering Mathematics (STEM). The mentorship programme was launched at the campus on Wednesday.

Launched in 2019-20, Vigyan Jyoti, the flagship programme of the department of science and technology, is exclusively for meritorious girl students aiming to address the under-representation of women in different fields of STEM in the country.

Arun M Isloor, Vigyan Jyoti coordinator from NITK, told TOI that under the programme, the government selects 50 girl students from each Kendriya Vidyalaya (KV), Jawaharlal Navodaya Vi-



Kevin Mendonsa

EMPOWERING GIRLS: Arun M Isloor, coordinator from NITK, Surathkal addressing the participants at the mentorship programme held on Wednesday

dhyala (JNV), government schools, and army schools situated in small cities. A total of 200 KVs, JNVs and others have been selected for the Vigyan Jyoti programme this year. Earlier, there were only 100 institutions.

In the first round, NITK, Surathkal mentored JNV, Mudipu. Isloor said that due to the pandemic, the one year

mentorship programme was stretched to two years and concluded last November. Most of the programme was held online.

"It will be a one-year programme this time," he said, adding that girl students studying in classes 11 and 12 at JNV Hassan will be the participants.

On the first day, the participants were given a tour of the institute. Isloor said in the coming days, there will be a week-long residential camp organised where the participants will become more familiar with all the facilities available at the campus. "They will also have an opportunity to interact with teaching faculty, PhD scholars, and students from postgraduate courses. We will also conduct talks and workshops, inviting resource persons from outside. The faculty from NITK will also visit JNV Hassan to conduct programmes related to STEM," he said.