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Rs 25cr to IISER team to work on bits for quantum computer

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Pune: Scientists at the Indian Institute of Science Education and Research (IISER), Pune are working on the 'bits' in the processor of a quantum computer.

In classical computer processors, one has 32 or 64 bits to carry out computations and processing of information.

IISER scientists are trying to increase a similar number of mechanical bits in a quantum computer. They have received an allocation of Rs 25 crore. The project is part of the National Mission on Quantum Technologies and Applications (QTA) which received Rs 300 crore from the department of science and technology for 51 projects across India.

The Interdisciplinary Cyber Physical Systems division of the department recently released the financial sanction under 'Quantum Enabled Science and technology (QUEST)' programme, Umakant Rapol and T S Mahesh said. Both are leading two experimental projects of the 51 in this programme.

Co-principal investigators include MS Santhanam, Rejish Nath, and GV Pavan Kumar.

“Like in classical computer processors, one has 32 or 64 bits to carry out computations and processing of information that finally will be used to convert, store, display, process and transfer data among different devices. To get to a similar number of quantum mechanical bits in a quantum computer is a big technical and scientific challenge,” Rapol added.

