

# Five girls on 'team Jugnu' at IIT-Kanpur

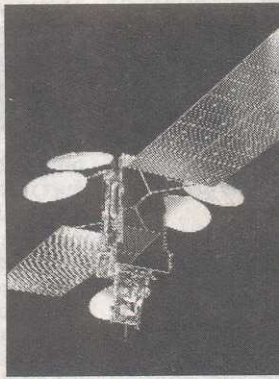
Abhinav Malhotra | TNN

**Kanpur:** It is no more a male bastion. A team of students (under guidance of faculty of IIT-K), which is toiling hard for the development of India's first nano-satellite 'Jugnu', also has female members on board. They are putting in best efforts for the successful completion of the much admired project of the IIT-Kanpur.

Ruchira Chobisa, Shubhali Sachdeva, Ankita Mittal, Shruti Mittal and Nishaan Ponnuru are the girls busy assisting their other team members in the ongoing coveted project. On the one hand where Ruchira has taken over the responsibility of team management, Shubhali is looking after ground station set up on the IIT-K campus.

Shruti is managing the control of the satellite, whereas Ankita is working on the Global Positioning System (GPS) which will provide details about the position of the nano-satellite. Last but not the least, Nishaan is contributing to the project by working on the thermal system (which means to regulate the heat inside the satellite) of the satellite.

"It is a complete team effort but there are female members also in the group. Shubhali (BTech-I electrical department), Ankita and Shruti (both BTech-I student of aerospace department) and Nishaan (MTech-II aerospace department) are vital mem-



bers of the project who are also working like their male counterparts in the early completion of this satellite mission," said Ruchira Chobisa, senior project associate while talking to TOI.

Weighing less than three kg and with most functionalities of a normal satellite on a small platform, the payload of the satellite will include an indigenously designed camera for near remote sensing and a GPS receiver. Jugnu will transmit blinking signals at all times-all over the earth.

Ruchira also informed that the Nano satellite Jugnu is getting ready to set new highs in the field of space research. Jugnu will be launched from Satish Dhawan Space Centre (also known as SHAR, located in Sriharikota, Andhra Pradesh) by ISRO's Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle (PSLV). After its launch, Jugnu will be continuously monitored and controlled by the ground station located on the campus. **P9**