IIT-Hyderabad to study conceptualised ageing within IVF

HYDERABAD: The Indian Institute of Technology, Hyderabad is all set to undertake a study on the ways in which ageing is conceptualised within in-vitro fertilization (IVF) by researching on elderly couples conceiving and giving birth to children in North India. According to a press release issued by IIT-Hyderabad, the project has been sanctioned funding of Rs 25 lakh under the Wellcome UK Small Projects Grant for 2018 and is titled 'a preliminary study of ageing and assisted reproduction in India.' The project will commence in April, 2018 and includes fieldwork followed by a conference on 'reframing the biological clock: exploring ethnographic research on ageing and reproduction' in August, 2018. Research from Europe, USA and Asia will be presented at the conference, which will be hosted by IIT Hyderabad. Speaking about the project, Anindita Majumdar, assistant professor, department of liberal arts, IIT Hyderabad who will be leading the research, said -"The aim of the research is to contribute conceptually and through field data to ongoing, and future research on assisted conception, infertility and reproduction in India. This would include publications emerging from research, and the development of a larger research project that will look at the impact that societal and environmental factors have on increasing fears of declining fertility in urban India." The research firmly embeds itself within emerging issues of the 'biological clock', and declining fertility which has long-term significance on demographic and population trends, as well as on the social care and responsibility of an ageing population.

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