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About 15 faculty members of PEC University of Technology, Chandigarh, will undertake an international study tour to Singapore next month.

The week-long tour will commence on October 2.

In a first-of-its-kind tour being undertaken by the PEC faculty, they would be visiting some of the top universities in the world, Nanyang Technological University, National Singapore University, Singapore Management University, Singapore University of Technology and Design, said officials.

The group will also interact with members of the Chamber of Commerce in Singapore. The team is expected to study a new water facility with a capacity of 50 MGD, which was opened in May 2010 at Changi.

The facility met up to 30% of the nation's current water needs, officials said. The delegation will also visit a unique polytechnic facility in Singapore, where non-traditional skill development courses were being offered. The team is also expected to visit a Rolls Royce plant in Singapore.

The delegation includes all deans and associate deans from different departments of the varsity. The delegation will be headed by PEC deputy director Sanjeev Sofat.

The study tour is being organised as part of the Technical Education Quality Improvement Programme (TEQIP), a project funded by the World Bank.

Officials said after scrutinising applications from nearly 100 educational institutions in the country, the Centre had awarded a grant of `13 crore to PEC under the TEQIP.

An official said, "The grant has been provided to the varsity for upgrading facilities of post-graduate and PhD courses at the institute."

He stated that as per TEQIP rules, the varsity had to utilise the grant under nine different heads.

The heads are: procuring resources for upgrading teaching, training and learning facilities; awarding teaching and research assistantships to post-graduate students; enhancing research and development work, and institutional consultancy activities by conducting workshops, seminars and lectures; offering skill-development courses for faculty members; increasing industry-academia interaction by organising industrial tours and inviting industry experts to varsities; sending senior officials on programmes for enhancing institutional management capacity; obtaining accreditation under latest norms; awarding scholarships for students; setting-up a TEQIP office and providing incremental training to varsity staff.