

Foreign delegates propose exchange of scientists

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Kanpur: Several foreign delegates from various countries of the world along with the distinguished IIT-K authorities gathered on the campus on Friday and paid their rich tribute to Professor Purushottam Kashinath Kelkar, its founder director, by making a sincere commitment to promote science and technology through international collaborations.

Vu Quang Diem, ambassador, Embassy of Vietnam said, "China is rising, India is emerging and Vietnam is growing. As our country is growing, therefore, in the recent years, Vietnam government has focussed on the fields like IT, biotechnology, automation. IIT-K has a lot of potential and thus, we would like to promote the exchange of scientists and research initiative between the two countries, which already has been going on successfully."

Giving a lot of credit to India in the shaping of African country, Ethiopia, Gennet Zewdie, ambassador, Embassy of Ethiopia said, "What India has

Scientific collaboration between India, Israel soon

Abhinav Malhotra | TNN

Kanpur: It is for the first time that a collaborative effort has been made with Israel wherein bilateral research will be carried out for the benefit of the two countries in the India Israel Institute for Industrial Research and Development, AK Sood, who was representing department of science and technology (DST) at IIT-K, told TOI.

"The areas identified for collaborative research work includes fields like agriculture, biotechnology,

energy)."

He revealed that the DST will soon be launching fellowships for the students and faculty members of African countries so that they come to India for higher education where they will be imparted scientific knowledge through expertise in various scientific fields.

The government of India is in agreement with 80 countries of the world for promoting scientific research and temper. The focus of the DST is to grab the meaningful knowledge or a know-how from other countries

GOLDEN JUBILEE YEAR OF IIT-K



achieved so far is all because of science and technology, so now our country is following on the footprints of India to carve a niche for itself."

"We look up to India as a knowledge-based country. As a result close to 1,000 students (including those students who have earned fellowships) from Ethiopia are already enrolled in various universities in India. We would like to further intensify our collaboration with India so as to strengthen our relationship with this country", added Gennet Zewdie.

Highlighting the priority areas of bilateral research between India and France, Vivek Dham and Olivier Duchatelle from the Embassy of France said, "The priority areas include fields like biotechnology, natural sciences, environment and climate change, IT, medicines and pharmacology and renewable sources of energy. We promote Indo-French collaborative research work which benefits the people of scientific bent of mind on both the sides. India is a major partner in a large project known as ITER (International Thermonuclear Experimental Reactor) along with other countries of the world, including France."

Earlier, Prof S G Dhande, director, IIT-Kanpur, in his inaugural speech said that developing creative minds is essential to create teachers of tomorrow who in turn will further create teachers.

Dhande highlighted the major steps that IIT-K will be taking, "Noida extension centre will be set up in due time. This centre will make felt our presence in and around Delhi. This centre will also assist us in inking international collaborations and for holding meetings and conferences."

Dhande also touched upon the establishment of a research centre or engineering excellence in



BRAINSTORMING: Director IIT-K SG Dhande along with Ambassadors of Ethiopia and Vietnam at a workshop to commemorate PK Kelkar Centenary Celebrations on Friday

nanotechnology, IT, medicine and communications. Israel is one such country which has a lot of potential and India and Israel together can bring out high end results in the fields in which it has collaborated," added Sood.

He added, "Similarly, in the field of automobile engineering we have collaborated with Germany, in the fields of IT and health services, we are in collaboration with UK. China and India are working together in the area of earthquake and civil engineering. India, Spain, the Netherlands and Germany will together focus on renewable sources of energy (solar and wind

of the world with whom the deal has been inked.

Meanwhile, IIT-K will ink an MoU with the Malaysian government on Saturday for setting up of an electronic hub in Penang. It is noteworthy this development will take place during the ongoing golden jubilee celebrations of IIT-K.

"The aim of signing of this deal is to provide technical knowhow in setting up of an electronic hub in Malaysia. We will operate through a research centre in this hub which will make our presence in the south east Asian region," said SG Dhande, director, IIT-K, while talking to TOI.

Penang in Malaysia. "This centre of engineering excellence will again make our presence in the electronic hub of Malaysia."

"We will also promote virtual academic system (distance education) as many countries of the world are looking towards India for higher technical and academic growth through collaborations," added Dhande.

Other scientists and technocrats who participated on this occasion were Prof Anandkrishnan,

chairman, Board of Governors, IIT-K, Dr Elizabeth Thornhill from Embassy of USA, Dr K Gopalan vice-president, Khazana, Malaysia, Prof Rosa Marina de Brito Meyer, Pontifical Catholic University Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, Dr A K Sood from the department of Science and Technology, Dr Smriti Trikha, Prof Axel Eggert from Germany and others also spoke before the distinguished people, who were present in the outreach auditorium on the campus.