

IIT-K celebrates 50th anniversary

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KANPUR: Continuing with the golden jubilee celebrations, the Indian Institute of Technology - Kanpur (IIT-K) celebrated its Founders Day (marks a symbolic completion of 50 years) here on Friday.

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With the theme of 'The Institutes Contribution to the Society', Prof Sanjay Govind Dhande director IIT-K said: "Today is a historic day as the institute has completed its fifty years of inception." He recalled that in the year 1959, a five page document was signed, registering IIT-K as a society and Prof Purshottam Kashinath Kelkar was appointed as the first director of the institute.

Since then the institute has witnessed five decades of ups and downs and has made several contributions to the society. Dhande further went on to add, "Science based education was the unique model brought in for the first time in India by IIT-K. Thus, it would not be wrong to say that IIT-K is a jewel in the crown of Uttar Pradesh, he added.

Addressing the gathering, Prof Yash Pal National Mahatma Gandhi Fellow and Former Chairman UGC said: "There is no doubt that IITs have been contributing a lot to the society in many ways but the achievements made so far by the IIT-K in particular should act as a catalyst to propel further growth of the institute."

Further, Pal expressed concern over the shortage of the quality teachers in academic institutes like IITs. He stressed that students should be provided pressure free environment where chances of their individual growth and prosperity of the institute always remain higher.

Chairman, Board of Governors, IIT-Kanpur, Prof Anandkrishnan; Dean-Resource and Planning, Prof SK Agarwal; Chairman of Golden Jubilee Committee, Dr Manindra Agarwal were present on the occasion.