

Subbarao, Kohli felicitated at IIT-K

Freedom to work has helped IITians: CNR

HT Correspondent

Kanpur, February 11

FREEDOM to work and opportunities given to students at the Indian Institute of Technology Kanpur (IIT-K) to shape their innovative ideas, led them to earn a name at the international level. A large number of students of IIT-K were found in almost all the developed and the developing countries of the world.

This was stated by an eminent scientist and Chairman of the Board of Governors of IIT-K Dr CNR Rao at a felicitation ceremony of two scientists at the institute here today.

The two scientists, including professor EC Subbarao and Fakir Chand Kohli, were awarded the title of 'Honorary Fellowship' for their contributions in their respective fields and towards the institute.

The chairman said about 80 per cent of students of the Chemistry Department of the Institute were enjoying key positions in Multinational companies abroad. Many of them even set up their own companies, he added.

Professor Rao stressed upon the need for a better relationship among the faculty, students and alumni for



Prof EC Subbarao (centre) being felicitated at a function in IIT-K on Saturday.

ensuring a fast pace of academic excellence. He praised the students for their loyalties and commitment towards their duty.

Earlier, welcoming the guests, IIT-K director of the Dr Sanjay G Dhande said the Institute introduced the novel idea of felicitating its alumni and the people who achieved excellence in their field of research and development. He said the proposal to this effect had been approved by the Board of Governors.

Professor Eleswaru Chenni Subbarao who had been abroad had joined the Metallurgical Engineering Department of the IIT-K in 1963.

He had established the inter-disciplinary Material Science Programme at the Institute and has been the first convener for four years. He has been the founder director of Tata Research, Design and Development Center (TRDDC), Pune.

Dr Subbarao is known for his contribution towards the development of DNA-based diagnostic kit for tuberculosis and maturing of a software foundry with software tools to facilitate automatic code generation with a higher gain in productivity.

Fakir Chand Kohli is regarded as the guiding spirit of Indian software industry. He has been the general manager of Tata Consultancy Services (TCS) and at present he is the senior advisor to the TCS and several other prestigious IT-based industries.

Besides several awards, Kohli was also given Padam Bhushan in 2002.

PG courses: IITs must pull up socks

THE INDIAN Institutes of Technology (IITs) have no doubt, produced world-class undergraduate engineers but at the post-graduate level, these institutions have to labour to improve the quality of education.



This was stated by Fakir Chand Kohli in his address, after

FC Kohli at the felicitation function.

being felicitated by the IIT-K here on Saturday. He warned that if serious thought to improve the post-graduate education scenario was not given, the country would face acute shortage of qualified engineers by 2010.

He said the present scenario required postgraduates with high innovative skills to compete in the world and to meet the requirement of consumers and the industry alike. He added it was very discouraging to note that very few students go for post-graduate degree and for research and development-oriented courses or programmes. Even out of the total number of undergraduate engineers, which the IITs produce, more than 50 per cent rush abroad for better prospects, while half of the remaining students take up their own business. Only a very small number of engineers go to prestigious industries of the country.

Citing an example he said, if a good number of highly research-oriented electrical engineers had worked with the power sector, there would have been tremendous progress. According to reports it was found that none of the PG electrical engineers preferred working in the power sector during the past 10 years, he said.

IITs asked to help 'poorer' cousins

PROFESSOR EC Subbarao stressed upon the need to extend undergraduate engineering courses in the country to meet future demands of the fast growing technology sector. He said the existing number of technical persons was quite negligible to meet the future challenges. Professor Subbarao was speaking at his felicitation ceremony at the IIT-K. He suggested that premier institutes like IITs should provide assistance to colleges, which lacked sophisticated engineering infrastructure, so that the academic discrimination could be reduced.

He further said system of e-classes be introduced so that lectures delivered by eminent scientists and professors could be shared by students of other institutes in the country. He also expressed his concern over the slow progress of post-graduate engineering education.

HTC, Kanpur

Rao shares ideas with students

HT Correspondent

Kanpur, February 11

ABOUT 2000 students of different schools from Class IX-XII had a unique experience in listening to noted scientist CNR Rao. Dr Rao discussed the simple methods of learning science subjects with young students.

Dr Rao emphasised on the need to develop a sense of keen observation and understanding among students through simple experiments and relating day-to-day experiences with scientific principles.

He said almost all scientists had learnt new things in nature through observations. Students of science should keep their eyes and ears open, he said. He advised students that mugging solutions would not help them to have a clear concept of scientific principles. He also asked them to be in touch with nature.

Dr Rao's lecture was telecast live. The arrangement for it was made by a team from IIT-K.

Earlier, Indumati Rao addressed the tiny tots at the Opportunity School, which is managed by a society under her supervision. The school provides education to physically and financially handicapped children.

IIT-K felicitates former teachers

TOI



Prof EC Subbarao (R) being felicitated by CNR Rao at IIT-K on Saturday.

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Kanpur: The Indian Institute of Technology-Kanpur (IIT-K) on Saturday felicitated two of its former professors, saying they were also the alumni of the institute. Board of Governors chairman CNR Rao said that this was to acknowledge their contribution in the building of brand-IIT.

Professors EC Subbarao and FC Kohli were felicitated in the presence of several faculty members of IIT-K. Subbarao had joined IIT-K in 1963 as head

of metallurgical engineering and became the first dean of faculties in 1967-72. At present, he is working as chief consulting advisor at Tata Research Development and Design Centre.

Kohli, at present working in Tata Consultancy, is popularly known as 'Father of Indian Software Industry'. Authorities said that Kohli had always had a soft corner for IIT-K and was as a mentor and patron of the institute.

Felicitating the two, Rao said that only former students should not be considered alumni, but former teachers also deserve equal love and affection from their alma mater.

Rao claimed that 75 per cent of all chemists in the country belong to IIT-K's chemical engineering department.

On a humorous note, director SG Dhande said that it had been a tradition of IIT-K not to start any alumni function on time and this was the reason why this function also started late.

He said, "it's a pleasure for us that every time we get best brains of the country as students, they are further groomed by even better brains of teachers."

The two professors were given a shawl, memento and a silk tie.

डावाडोल धरती पर झुक रहा है आसमां पर वाह-वाह



कानपुर, 11 फरवरी। मेधा की सही खोज नहीं हो पा रही है। मेधा को खोज कर आगे बढ़ाने में सभी को सहयोग करना होगा। यह बात मुख्य अतिथि श्रीमती इंदुमति राव (जवाहर लाल नेहरू उच्चतम वैज्ञानिक अनुसंधान केन्द्र बंगलूर की मल्टीमीडिया सलाहकार) ने अपौरच्युनिटी स्कूल आई. आई.टी. के सांस्कृतिक कार्यक्रम के उद्घाटन के अवसर पर कही। उन्होंने कहा कि टाइप-२ के एक कमरे में शुरू किया गया एक छोटा सा

छात्रा को पुरस्कृत करतीं मुख्य अतिथि इंदुमति राव।

अंकुर आज एक विशाल वृक्ष बन गया है। पांच बच्चों से शुरू होकर आज चार सौ बच्चे सही दिशा में शिक्षा प्राप्त कर रहे हैं। उन्होंने कहा कि हमारे देश में कोई कमी नहीं है। बस आवश्यकता इस बात की है कि मेधा को आगे बढ़ाने में सभी का सहयोग करे। तत्पश्चात ओमी, सोनम आदि ने जगत जननी शारदे...सरस्वती वंदना से जोरदार शुरूआत की। कार्यक्रम का संचालन दीपा भेसोरा ने किया तथा धन्यवाद डा.प्रभा शर्मा ने दिया। इस अवसर पर प्रमुख रूप से मेधा धाण्डे, डा.एफ.ए. खान, आर.एस. श्रीवास्तव, रवि शुक्ला आदि थे।

Learning science: Chairman of board of governors of IITs CNR Rao explained easy methods of learning science to schoolchildren of class 7, 8 and 9 in a session on 'Learning Sciences' at IIT-K on Saturday. His wife Indumati Rao, also delivered lectures to 1,500 students from 35 schools of the city.