

## Nineteenth Foundation Day Celebration of HBNI

The 19<sup>th</sup> Foundation Day of the Homi Bhabha National Institute (HBNI) was celebrated in hybrid mode at the DAE Convention Centre, Anushaktinagar, Mumbai on June 03, 2024. Prof. T. G. Sitharam, Chairman, All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE), New Delhi was the Chief Guest on the occasion. Prof. A. K. Mohanty, Secretary DAE and Chairman, Council of Management, HBNI presided over the function. Prof. Anil Kakodkar, Chancellor, HBNI, gave special address on this occasion. Ms. Seema Jain, Member Finance (AEC, Space & Earth Commission) was the Guest of Honour. Directors/Heads of CIs/OCC, functionaries of HBNI (at various CIs/OCC and Central Office), many faculty members, alumni, and students of HBNI participated in the function, in both online and offline mode. Prior to the Foundation Day event, the MoU between HBNI and Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) was signed in a ceremony in the presence of eminent professionals of both HBNI and CII Western Region, Mumbai. An Innovation Showcase consisting of 19 stalls displaying the contributions of HBNI students and faculty was inaugurated on this occasion by Ms. Seema Jain, Member Finance. Outstanding students of HBNI in various academic programmes and students selected for JB Joshi Research Foundation Innovation awards for the year 2023 were also honoured during the function.

Prof. A. K. Tyagi, Dean, HBNI welcomed the dignitaries and the gathering with an introduction about HBNI and its growth over the years. Prof. U. Kamachi Mudali, Vice Chancellor, HBNI presented the annual report of HBNI for the period 2023-24. He presented a comprehensive overview of the progress of HBNI in various domains and informed the gathering about the new initiatives taken by HBNI for the benefit of students particularly with respect to implementation of NEP-2020, value added courses, high value webinars and other events conducted by HBNI during the period.



*Dignitaries present at the HBNI-CII MoU signing Ceremony*



*Inauguration of Innovation Showcase by Ms. Seema Jain, Member Finance, AEC*



*Lighting of the Lamp by the Dignitaries*



*Dignitaries on the dais*



*Prof. A. K. Tyagi, Dean HBNI welcoming the gathering*

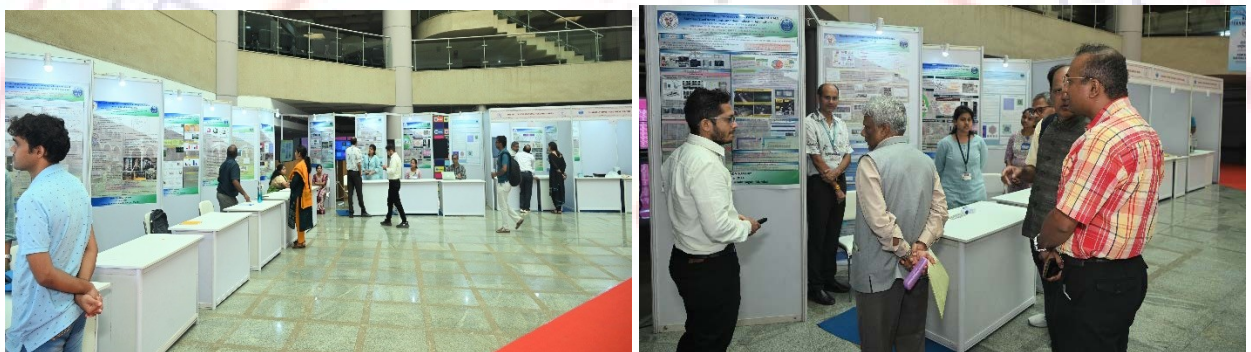
Prof. Anil Kakodkar, Chancellor, HBNI addressed the gathering by extending his congratulations to all the award winners and degree recipients. He recalled that HBNI was created to provide an academic environment for the DAE's mission-oriented activities and expressed his happiness to note its progress in the past nineteen years. He further remarked that in higher education domain there is a need for an ecosystem which nurtures high quality research in frontier areas and facilitates



its translation into new technologies useful for society and nation and HBNI has been aiming to provide that to its students. In his presidential address, Prof. A. K. Mohanty said that the kind of skilled human resources which HBNI is generating through its academic programmes is unparalleled to anywhere in the world and new initiatives being taken by HBNI will help to lay the roadmap for self-reliant and developed India. He appreciated the students and faculty members showcasing innovative research through posters, models, and video display on the occasion, leading to useful technologies in different disciplines.



*Prof. U. Kamachi Mudali, Dr. Anil Kakodkar & Prof. A. K. Mohanty addressing the gathering*



*Technology showcasing by HBNI students and faculty*

Prof. T. G. Sitharam conferred the degree certificates to 77 students from various disciplines and institutions, and presented the outstanding students awards of Ph.D., M.Tech, M.D., D.M. and M.Ch programmes. Thirteen students from various CIs/OCC received the awards and certificates from the Chief Guest. Followed by this he also presented JB Joshi Research Foundation Innovation awards to three best students from IGCAR, IPR and BARC.



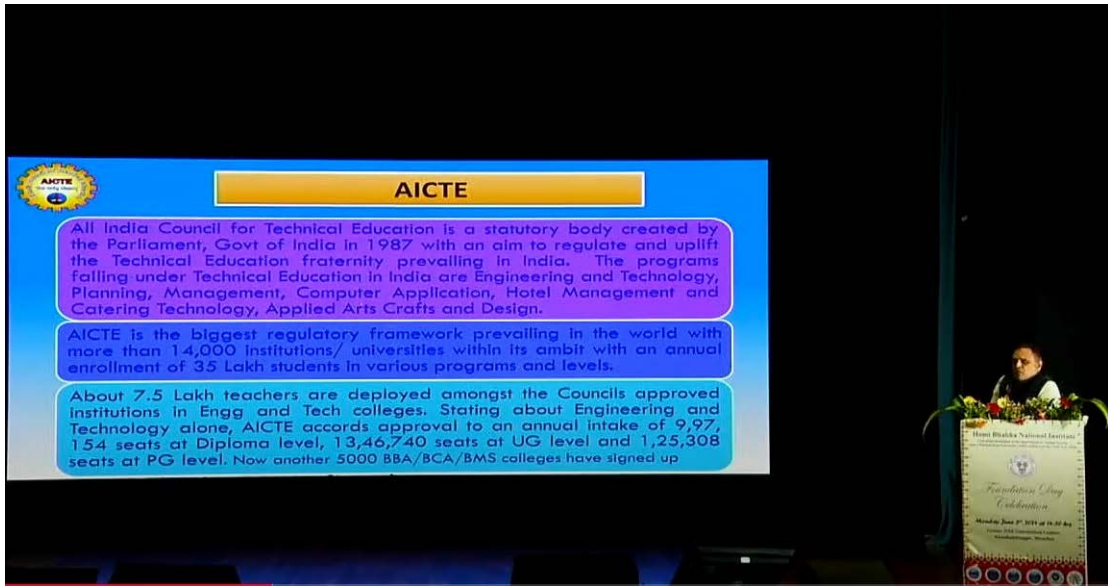
*J B Joshi Research Foundation Innovation awardees receiving their awards from Prof. T. G. Sitharam*



*Outstanding Student Award winners receiving their awards from Prof. T. G. Sitharam*

Prof. T.G. Sitharam delivered an informative and exciting talk on, “Building a Future Ready India - Vision, Plan & Strategy for Technical Education in India During Amrit Kaal.” He presented a detailed road map for transforming India's technical education landscape over the next 25 years, termed ‘Amrit Kaal’. According to him, this period, marking India's journey towards its centenary of independence, is seen as a pivotal era for accelerating national growth through strategic advancements in higher and technical education. He elaborated on the key initiatives that can be undertaken to implement the vision of 2047 in education, such as revamping curricula to integrate emerging technologies, enhancing the quality and accessibility of technical institutions, fostering innovation and research through enhanced industry-academia collaboration, encouraging innovation, entrepreneurship, and start-up ecosystem among students, and expanding access to technical education across diverse socio-economic segments. He also discussed about the transformative initiatives taken by AICTE in making Indian students of 21<sup>st</sup> century highly skilled professionals, innovators, entrepreneurs, and researchers who will contribute significantly towards making India “Viksit Bharat” by 2047.





*Prof. T. G. Sitharam delivering JB Joshi Research Foundation Endowment Lecture*

Prof. P. C. Selvin, Registrar proposed a vote of thanks highlighting the address delivered by the dignitaries and concluded the program appreciating the contribution of various stakeholders from HBNI Central Office, HRDD/BARC, DAE, CIs/OCC and other institutions. Finally, the event ended with National Anthem.

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