



Indian Institute of Technology, Gandhinagar

Report on Amrit Kaal Vimarsh Vikasit Bharat@2047 (AKVB@2047)

Date: September 11, 2023

Venue: Indian Institute of Technology Gandhinagar

Event: Dr. Shekhar C. Mande's Talk on "Achievements of Science and Technology" and Town Hall Q&A Session



Director, IIT Gandhinagar presenting memento to Dr. Shekhar C. Mande.

About the event:

On 11th September, 2023, the renowned scientists and former Director-General of the Council of Industrial Research (CSIR), **Dr. Shekhar C. Mande**, gave an enlightening talk at IIT Gandhinagar on the theme of “**Achievements of Science and Technology**”. The lecture was followed by a town hall Question and Answer session. The event, attended by approximately **300 participants**, including distinguished guests and members of academia

Speaker's Profile:



Dr. Shekhar C. Mande

Renowned Scientist and Former Director-General of Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR)

Shekhar C. Mande is Structural and Computational Biologist. He was the Director General of the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR), India, and the Secretary of the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research (DSIR), Ministry of Science and Technology. Prior to this, he was the Director of National Centre for Cell Science, Pune. He was awarded in 2005 the Shanti Swarup Bhatnagar Prize for Science and Technology, the highest science award in India, in the biological sciences category.

Key Highlights:

Dr. Mande highlighted the importance of fostering a robust and diversified economy, prioritizing innovation, entrepreneurship, manufacturing, and sustainable agricultural growth. The goal is to create an ecosystem where every Indian has the opportunity to thrive. He also mentioned that in an era of rapid technological progress, Amrit Kaal Vimarsh Vikasit Bharat@2047 places paramount importance on staying at the forefront of innovation. Dr. Mande emphasized harnessing the potential of AI, renewable energy solutions, and building a resilient digital infrastructure to lead technological advancements.



Dr. Mande stressed the significance of citizen well-being, emphasizing equitable access to quality education, healthcare, and essential services. He also highlighted the importance of gender equality, empowerment of marginalized communities, and a robust safety net for the vulnerable. Emphasizing the

duty of engineers, he highlighted the importance of sustainable resource management, proactive climate action, and eco-friendly urban planning were key components of this pillar. He mentioned that implementing Amrit Kaal Vimarsh Vikasit Bharat@2047 necessitates a collaborative effort from all stakeholders: government, private sector, civil society, and academia. Monitoring and evaluation will be pivotal, with the establishment of key performance indicators to track progress and ensure adaptability to challenges. He focused on a multifaceted funding strategy, including public funding, private investment, and international collaborations, will ensure the necessary resources for the success of this transformative vision.



Question and Answers:



The students asked questions related to CSIR's response and strategies to deal with the COVID-19 and its challenges. To answer this, Dr. Mande explained in detail the actions-taken along with the major area of focus from the pandemic times. Answering the question from another student on how various initiatives and policies of the government are playing their role in positioning India as a global leader in the digital revolution, he mentioned the success of digital voting system of India, Aadhar card system and digital payment solutions, that as per him, are playing a pivotal role in enhancing

digital literacy and promoting Digital India Mission.

Another student asked about the role that initiatives like semiconductor mission, quantum computing are playing in transforming India into a knowledge-based economy and bridging the divide. While delving on this topic, Dr. Mande mentioned that new technologies like AI, cloud computing and quantum computing are playing a crucial role in India's journey towards becoming a knowledge-based economy during the Amrit Kaal. He also highlighted that the Semiconductor mission holds the potential to establish India as a global hub for electronics design and manufacturing for the whole world.

The event was streamed live on : <https://www.facebook.com/iitgn.official>