

Way Forward for the Techade: Opportunities & Challenges IIT Hyderabad Celebrates its 17th Foundation Day

Highlights:

- *The Indian Institute of Technology Hyderabad (IITH) marked its 17th Foundation Day*
- *The event, themed "Way Forward for the Techade: Opportunities & Challenges,"*
- *The occasion was graced by Prof. Ajay Kumar Sood, Principal Scientific Advisor to the Government of India, as the Chief Guest. He delivered the Foundation Day Lecture, providing valuable insights into the transformative impact*
- *On this occasion, IITH and the United Nations University – Centre for Regional Integration Studies (UNU-CRIS) have signed a landmark MoU*
- *The celebration included the Foundation Day Awards Ceremony*
- *Released a book that showcases the bird diversity in and around the campus*

Hyderabad, April 2, 2025 – The Indian Institute of Technology Hyderabad (IITH) marked its 17th Foundation Day with a grand celebration, bringing together esteemed academicians, industry leaders, and innovators to discuss the future of technology in the coming decade. The event, themed "**Way Forward for the Techade: Opportunities & Challenges,**" underscored IITH's commitment to advancing scientific research, technological innovation, and academic excellence.

The occasion was graced by **Prof. Ajay Kumar Sood, Principal Scientific Advisor to the Government of India, as the Chief Guest.** He delivered the Foundation Day Lecture, providing valuable insights into the transformative impact of emerging technologies and the challenges that lie ahead in India's technological growth trajectory. **He said** "*It is an honor to witness the transformative power of science, technology, and innovation in shaping our nation's progress. By fostering enabling technologies and nurturing innovative ideas, we pave the way for sustainable and holistic development. Let us continue to embrace research-driven solutions for a brighter future.*"

Speaking on the occasion, Prof. B.S. Murty, Director, IITH, reflected on IITH's evolution a premier institution known for its cutting-edge research, global collaborations, and industry-driven initiatives. He reaffirmed the institute's commitment to nurturing future-ready talent and strengthening India's position as a global technology leader. He highlighted the institute's remarkable journey since its inception.

On this occasion, **IITH and the United Nations University – Centre for Regional Integration Studies (UNU-CRIS) have signed a landmark Memorandum of Understanding (MoU)** to advance research and innovation in sustainable development, climate resilience, and governance. This collaboration aims to harness UNU's policy research expertise and IITH's technological leadership to drive impactful solutions aligned with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). By fostering regional integration, capacity building, and knowledge exchange, this partnership will contribute to transformative advancements that benefit communities locally and globally. Both institutions look forward to a meaningful alliance that accelerates progress towards a more sustainable and inclusive future.

The celebration included the Foundation Day Awards Ceremony, where faculty, staff, and students were recognized for their outstanding contributions in academics, research, and administration.

In a significant step toward documenting and preserving biodiversity, IITH has released a Coffee Table Book that showcases the bird diversity in and around the campus. Curated by Dr. Rashmi Singh, an Assistant Professor in the Liberal Arts Department, and designed by BDes student Shreevil KJ, this book is a remarkable effort to document the rich avian life thriving in IITH's green oasis, which is nestled between two lakes amidst rapidly expanding urban areas. This initiative highlights IITH's commitment to environmental conservation and ecological research.

With a legacy of excellence and a vision for the future, IITH continues to be at the forefront of technological advancements, shaping the *Techade* with pioneering innovations and transformative solutions.

In pursuit of Inventing & Innovating in Technology for Humanity, IITH has achieved many milestones, some of which the summarized here:

- Foundation stone and initiating the journey with a BTech in CSE, EE, MAE & PhD in CE, CHE, CSE, CT, EE, MAE & PHY (2008)
- PhD in MSME, MTech in CHE, CSE, EE & MAE (2009)
- PhD in Biotechnology, Mathematics & MTech in CE, CHY & MSME, JICA Friendship Project (2010)
- PhD in Biomedical Engineering, MSc in PHY, BTech in CHY (2011)
- MTech in BME, BT, MPhil, BTech in ES, CE (2012)
- MSc in Mathematics/Maths & Computing, BTech in Engineering Physics (2013)
- Launched Fractal Academics, MDes, BTech in MSME (2014)
- PhD in Design, MTech in Data Science, Established iTIC (2015)
- Established Technology Research Park, TLC, CfHE (2016)
- BTech in Mathematics and Computing (2017)
- Launched Incubator for chip design FabCI, Interdisciplinary Arts Liberal Minor in the department of AI (2018)
- BTech, MTech & PhD in AI, MTech in CC, MA in Development Studies, BDes (2019)
- Department of Entrepreneurship & Management, BTech in BME, Eight Industry Oriented MTech Programs (2020)
- Industry-oriented BTech Programs & Interdisciplinary MTech & online MTech programs, MTech in MDI, PhD in CC, ID, BTech in Biotechnology & Bioinformatics, Computational Engineering & Industrial Chemistry, CoEs on Additive Manufacturing, Transporting and Medical Devices, Centre for Interdisciplinary Programs (2021)
- BTech in IC Design & Technology, MTech in Ophthalmic Engineering, Systems Packaging, Semiconductor Material & Devices, Techno Entrepreneurship, Transport Technology & HST, MA in Health Gender & Society (2022)

- MDes in Product Design, Interaction Design, MTech in Quantum & Solis State Devices, Sustainable Engineering, PhD IN HST, Greenko School of Sustainability, Dr BVR Mohan Reddy School of Innovation & Entrepreneurship (BVR SCIENT) (2023)
- PhD in Engineering Science (2024)

Several Innovations by IITH:

- First institute in India to start Fractal Academics, giving a lot of flexibility to students and faculty.
- First IIT to start unique BTech programs such as (a) Eng. Sciences, (b) Artificial Intelligence (c) Biomedical Eng., (d) Biotech. & Bioinformatics, (e) Industrial Chemistry, (f) Computational Eng. and (g) IC Design & Technology.
- First IIT to start a multidisciplinary BTech program on Computational Engineering to create competent computational engineers for the manufacturing industry.
- First IIT to introduce another multidisciplinary BTech in Engineering Sciences, where students can pick up any courses of their choice to graduate.
- First IIT to introduce semester-long internship with 6 credits in BTech curriculum (6th semester, Jan-July) to get connected closely with industry.
- First IIT to set up a Department of Heritage Science and Technology (HST) that offers an MTech in HST.
- First IIT to start BTech in IC Design & Technology (2022). AICTE has adopted the curriculum of IITH for this program and started this program in about 180+ engineering colleges in 2023-2024. In addition, IITH also has several MTech programs such as Systems Packaging, Microelectronics & VLSI, E-Waste Management, Semiconductor Materials & Devices, Quantum & Solid-State Devices, to support India Semiconductor Mission.
- First IIT to launch an MTech in Techno-Entrepreneurship through its Entrepreneurship & Management department, wherein students develop a prototype and a business model to commercialize it by the end of 2-year program.
- First IIT to launch Open to All Teaching (OAT) program to open its courses to the whole world through hybrid classrooms to become a Viswa Guru.
- First IIT to offer Diploma to a UG student after completing 50% of credits (without backlogs) to pursue their startup dreams with an option to come back within 5 years to complete the remaining 50% credits. A UG student who completes all credits within 3 years with 8.5+ CGPA can pass out with a degree without the need to stay all 4 years.

Live telecast link: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=x_bCkPtg74c

Awardees List:

<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1h7jYcRSyVEGkZcpOTGzfPuL3rpPbJQzs?usp=sharing>

Snippet: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yq7fGMx_OOQ

About IIT Hyderabad:

IITH, established in 2008, as one of the second Generation IITs, has reached a respectable position in both academics, research, technology development and Startups in the short span of 17 years. In the recent Indian National Ranking (NIRF-2024), IITH is placed at 3rd in Innovation and 8th among Engineering institutes in India. IITH has been striving for excellence in academics, research, technology development and startup ecosystem with a motto of "Inventing & Innovating in Technology for Humanity (ITH)".



With 325+ full-time faculty and 5,300+ students (PG+PhD students accounting for about 60%), IITH has a strong research focus with ~4500 projects worth of Rs. 1400+ Cr of R&D funding (Rs. 250 Cr funding in 2023-24), 11,500+ publications, 2,15,000+ citations and h-index of 141, 500+ Patents (210 patents in 2024 and a commitment to “Patent a Day: Mission 365” for 2025 to earn 365 patents by the end of 2025), and about 260+ Startups (that have generated 1100+ jobs with a revenue of Rs. 1500+ Cr). The attached documents will give you a brief about IITH.

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