

AMALTHEA 2010

9-10th October

IIT Gandhinagar



Centre Ms. Yogita Limaye, Principal Correspondent, CNN-IBN Anchoring the 'Debate Session' on "Future Energy and the strategies for India"

Right (L to R) Prof A G Iyer, Editor-in-Chief, Enertia, Amit Kumar, Associate Director, PWC, Prof N Jotwani, Dean, School Solar Energy, Omkar Jani, Researcher, GERMI
Left (L to R) Siddharth Bhandari, MD, Electrotherm, Maheshwar Sahu, Principal Secretary, Dept of Industry and Mines, Govt. of Gujarat and Jayesh Buch, Director, ESSAR

Amalthea at IIT-Gandhinagar, advocates Solar & Renewables for a new Energy Economy

IIT Gandhinagar (IITGn) is one among the new IITs started from the academic year 2008-09. Gandhinagar is known for its excellent infrastructure with thriving industries, prestigious academic and research institutes and an ambiance which encourages excellence and entrepreneurship. IIT Gandhinagar consisting of bright and enthusiastic 400 students along with a Dynamic Director and its faculty members is showing unprecedented progress in academia and student activities which are of global importance.

The students of IIT Gandhinagar organized its first ever technical summit Amalthea on 9th - 10th October 2010. The Energy Conclave, main highlight of Amalthea was based on 'Renewable Energy, its scope and Importance'. The Conclave at Amalthea touched upon the much-needed knowledge on "Non-Conventional Energy, its importance and scope", and opened up the dialogue further in Gujarat for a new thinking and as the only way to save our planet from Climate Change and its impact.

Involvement of Academia in discussions for a Clean and Green Planet is critical for future generations of Energy Practitioners to take the limelight with a fresh approach to the conventional.

About 30 dignitaries from the top companies in the country participated and ignited the young and motivated students of IIT Gandhinagar. Among these were Accenture CMD Harsh Manglik, Ex-Chairman IOCL Sarthak Behuria, Director Essar Jayesh Buch, Applied Materials, MD, Madhusudan Atre, Tata BP Solar's, CEO, K Subramanya, Sintex Ltd., MD, Dangaych, PWC, Associate Director, Amit Kumar and others.

Apart from the lecture sessions and Panel Discussions on both the days, the main highlight of the Energy Conclave was the 'Debate Session' organized at the end of Day-2. The session was anchored by Principal Correspondent CNN-IBN Ms Yogita Limaye. There were 7 eminent panelists debating on the Future Course of Energy and the strategies needed to mitigate the energy crisis. The session became so intense and interesting that it lasted for two and a half hours with the active involvement of the students in the debate during the last hour.

The session had eminent panelists from different genres like Prof A G Iyer, Editor-in-Chief & Publisher, ENERTIA and Co-author of the Report 'India's Power & Energy Economy 2009-2011', Mr. Siddharth Bhandari, MD, Electrotherm, Prof N Jotwani,

Dean, School Solar Energy who favoured the newera of Solar Energy.

While there were still some industrialists who believed that even though there is much hype about the renewable energy sector, the conventional sources will still be major economic backbone like Mr. Jayesh Buch, Director, Essar, Sri Amit Kumar, Associate Director, PWC.

Mr. Maheshwar Sahu, Principal Secretary, Department of Industry and Mines, Government of Gujarat was gung-ho about Solar and supported Prof. Iyer's fervent pitch and insight on Why India must move and shift aggressively to a Solar and Renewable driven Economy. Gujarat's Own Solar Policy success with the most competitive tariff regime aims at further lowering the Solar Tariff for parity with Thermal Power. This grand design is by virtue of more efficient technologies for Solar Generation as well as storage in the near future. The Debate Discussion concluded that Solar Parity may come as early as in 2014 due to the trend of ever increasing efficiencies of Solar Cells using Nano Tech.

Also various issues like the Reliance Khimsar project and the nuclear power projects were taken up.



Mr. Sarthak Behuria, Ex-Chairman, IOCL talked about the contribution of coal and oil to the economy of the developing countries like India and how we should incorporate the new vision of Solar India along with the conventional ways in order to be a world leader in the power sector.



Packed Audience at the Debate Session at Amalthea - IIT Gandhinagar, Gujarat