

## **Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) President Shri Vikram Kirloskar addresses VNIT Students**

Visvesvaraya National Institute of Technology (VNIT) organised a special guest lecture as a part of its planned series of special guest lectures to mark the celebration of its Diamond Jubilee.

Shri Vikram Kirloskar, was the Chief Guest and speaker for this lecture. Shri Vishram Jamdar, Chairman BoG, VNIT, presided over the function. Shri Kirloskar addressed the VNIT students, faculty and guests from industry on “Need of the hour – Carbon Policy”

A graduate, in Mechanical Engineering from the prestigious Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Shri Vikram Kirloskar is Chairman & MD of Kirloskar Systems Ltd and vice-chairman of Toyota Kirloskar Motors. He is also the President of Confederation of Indian Industry (CII).

Prof. P. M. Padole, welcomed the Chief Guest with a sapling, presented him with a memento and introduced Shri Vikram Kirloskar.

During his speech, Shri Kirloskar congratulated VNIT, on completion of 60 years.

He spoke on “Need of the hour – Carbon Policy”. In a simple language he highlighted the greatest challenge faced by mankind, that is the ‘climate change’. He expressed that the global average temperature has already increased by 1 degree since, pre-industrial era, and with carbon-di-oxide emissions at the highest level in 800,000 years, at whopping 400 ppm, in absence of climate policies, the global temperatures would rise by 4.1 – 4.8 degrees centigrade by the end of this century

He further pointed out that, globally about 50% of the emissions are the result of electricity generation, and the transport & other industries contributing about 20%. As per NITI Aayog, India Energy Security Scenario (IESS), 2047, the energy demand of India is likely to go up by 2.7 -3.2 times, with the electricity component itself rising 4.5 fold. India being largely dependent on coal and oil for its electricity requirement, he stressed upon the need of holistic approach to address the problem.

Shri Kirloskar, added that, although, renewable energy shall be critical in mitigating carbon emissions, the challenge lies in the mismatch in demand and supply requiring large renewable energy storage requirements. Although, advanced batteries and hydrogen are the two pathways explored in this direction. With advanced batteries as Lithium batteries having their limitations, hydrogen can be energy source for transportation needs in future.

He expressed his view that, existing strategies of promoting energy efficiency, like mandatory energy efficiency labelling alone may not be adequate and therefore a scientific approach to link taxation to energy efficiency and carbon emissions can be linked.

Shri Vikram Kirloskar sought attention of the audience to the commitment of his company to global environment. He added that as part of Global Environmental Challenge for 2050, Toyota has set itself a target of not just achieving zero carbon

emission from its new cars and manufacturing but do much beyond and aspire to realize Life Cycle zero carbon emissions

He shared with the audience, the fact that Toyota Kirloskar Motors has set up an eco zone in @25 acres with 17 theme parks showcasing various aspects of environment conservation, aimed at educating society, particularly the school and college students. He extended an invitation to the audience to visit the facility.

The talk was followed by an interactive question answer session with audience.

Shri Vishram Jamdar delivered his presidential address. Prof. D. R. Peshwe proposed a vote of thanks. The program was compared by Prof. Meera Dhabu. The program concluded with the national anthem.



