

TO CARRY ON HIS FATHER'S LEGACY OF PHILANTHROPY

Doctor founds sustainable development centre at IIT-Gn

Parth.Shastri@timesgroup.com

Ahmedabad: Dr Kiran Patel, a noted cardiac surgeon based in Tampa, Florida, remembers his father's endeavours made nearly half a century ago in Zambia—the country of his birth. "He set up a Gujarati and English-medium school for the Gujarati people living there, established temples and community trusts to keep the spirit of India alive. Perhaps it influenced me to go on the same path," he said before the inauguration of Dr Kiran C Patel Centre for Sustainable Development at IIT Gandhinagar on Wednesday.

Dr Patel is known for his philanthropic streak in the



Dr Kiran Patel

three continents of North America, Africa and Asia with over \$300 million donated to different educational institutes including those at Nova Southeastern University and University of South Florida.

Educated in medicine at Ahmedabad and New York, Patel is a serial health entre-

preneur with multiple ventures sold for millions of dollars. "I tend to support education of the underprivileged as I strongly believe that good health and education is all a person needs to make the most of the opportunities he/she encounters," he said.

Talking about the rationale behind the centre at IIT-Gn, Dr Patel said that technology has to find answers to today's world problems. "Everyone wants to lead an American lifestyle without realizing that all the world's resources will not be enough for it. It has to be practical ideas such as reducing water use or electricity wastage during transmission," he said.

The centre will research and provide consultancy, education and outreach in the fields of water, pollution, waste management, energy, climate change, wildlife, and ecosystem among others.

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Source: Times of India (Pg. no. 2)

Link: <https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/ahmedabad/doctor-founds-sustainable-development-centre-at-iit-gn/articleshow/67763959.cms>

Date: 31/01/2019