



Indian Institute of Technology Kanpur

INSTITUTE LECTURE SERIES

February 16, 2026 (Monday) | 6.10 pm | L - 16

India's Role in Global Health: Challenge and Opportunity

Speaker: Dr. Gagandeep Kang

Director-Enterics, Diagnostics, Genomics and Epidemiology
Global Health, Gates Foundation

About the Speaker

Gagandeep Kang is a physician-scientist specialising in microbiology and public health. She has made significant contributions to vaccines, child health, water and sanitation, and nutrition. She built an internationally recognised research program at the Christian Medical College, Vellore, and contributed to the development and use of two WHO pre-qualified rotavirus vaccines made by Indian companies.

Dr. Kang's research has influenced public health policy in India, and she has served on various advisory committees for the Government of India and the World Health Organization and on the Boards of the Coalition for Epidemic Preparedness Innovations, Hilleman Labs and the Biotechnology Industry Research Assistance Council. She led the Translational Health Science and Technology Institute under the Department of Biotechnology, building translational and clinical research capacity in service of Indian innovation. In 2023, she joined the Gates Foundation to lead the enterics, diagnostics, genomics, and epidemiology portfolio within the Global Health Division. During the COVID-19 pandemic, she played a crucial role in public health communication.

She was elected as a Fellow of the Royal Society in 2019 and an international member of the US National Academy of Medicine in 2023. She has also been recognised with numerous awards, including the Infosys Prize in Life Sciences in 2016 and the Canada John Dirks Gairdner Prize in Global Health in 2024.



Abstract of the Talk

India occupies a unique position in global health as both a major contributor to disease burden and a critical producer of health technologies. India's role in biomedical innovation and manufacturing capacity is unique among low- medical income countries at similar levels of development. Using vaccines and diagnostics as exemplars of products essential to global health, the speaker will discuss where India has served as a scalable testbed for global solutions, and the opportunities for the future.

All are cordially invited to attend

Office of Dean Research & Development

**This talk is part of the Silver Jubilee Celebration Year of the
Biological Sciences and Bioengineering Department**