



KOTAK SCHOOL OF SUSTAINABILITY

Indian Institute of Technology Kanpur

Media Release

Foundation Stone Laid for the Kotak School of Sustainability Building at Indian Institute of Technology Kanpur

A LEED Platinum, Net Zero Energy Green Building to Serve as Hub for Sustainability Research and Action

Kanpur, August 6, 2025: The foundation stone of the Kotak School of Sustainability (KSS) building was laid today at the Indian Institute of Technology Kanpur (IIT Kanpur) by Professor Manindra Agrawal, Director IIT Kanpur- marking a pivotal moment in advancing academic infrastructure aligned with global sustainability goals.

Attended by Dean, Kotak School of Sustainability, Professor Sachchida Nand Tripathi, senior officials from Kotak Mahindra Bank, senior administrators, faculty members, Advisory Council members, the ceremony celebrated a vision where sustainability, innovation, and academic leadership converge.

The KSS building is envisioned as a LEED Platinum and Net Zero energy facility, integrating sustainable construction practices, efficient energy management systems, and environmentally sensitive design principles. Built using bamboo, hempcrete, mycelium-based material, engineered wood, and recycled components, the structure exemplifies the harmony between green materials and natural habitats, including the preservation of silver oak trees on-site and protection of the existing waterbody and landscape contours.

Prof. Manindra Agrawal, Director of Indian Institute of Technology Kanpur, stated: "The Kotak School of Sustainability stands at the confluence of science, policy, and public purpose. This building will accelerate our capacity to deliver high-impact research and thought leadership in sustainability."

Prof. Sachchida Nand Tripathi, Dean, Kotak School of Sustainability, Indian Institute of Technology Kanpur, added: "This space will allow us to convene experts, students, and stakeholders under one roof, pushing the boundaries of what sustainability science and innovation can achieve for India and the world."

Mr. Rajeev Ratan, Senior Executive Vice President, Kotak Mahindra Bank, said: "Through this initiative, Kotak reaffirms its long-term commitment to sustainability. We are proud to

support a space that will incubate solutions for climate resilience, energy transition, and equitable development."

This 18450 Sqm building will include over 25 state of the art research labs, offices for faculty, PHD scholars, Post-Doctoral fellows and other staff members, seminar and conference rooms, interactive spaces, and eco-zones designed to promote interdisciplinary learning and collaboration. With proximity to mass transit, bicycle facilities, EV parking, and environmentally friendly insulation and HVAC systems, it is a model of future-ready academic infrastructure.

The KSS is set to attract leading sustainability scholars and practitioners from around the world, including faculty from MIT, Princeton, University of Maryland, Cambridge and Oxford already on board. This School will become a national and international hub for sustainability research, focusing on areas that include Sustainable Energy & Resource Use; Environment, Climate & Ecology; Sustainable Infrastructure; Sociology, Policy & Economics; Sustainable Practices; Water Science & Engineering; Technology Integration; Economics, Policies & Regulations and AI for Sustainability.







भारतीय प्रौद्योगिकी संस्थान कानपुर
Indian Institute of Technology Kanpur

FOUNDATION STONE LAYING

Ceremony
OF

**KOTAK SCHOOL OF
SUSTAINABILITY**

INDIAN INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY KANPUR

6th AUGUST 2025



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About the Kotak School of Sustainability, IIT Kanpur

Launched in December 2023, the Kotak School of Sustainability at IIT Kanpur was established with financial support from Kotak Mahindra Bank Limited, under its CSR initiative. The School aims to become a leading academic hub for sustainability research, education, and policy engagement in India and globally. Its interdisciplinary research spans Sustainable Energy & Resource Use; Environment, Climate & Ecology; Water Science & Engineering; Sustainable Infrastructure; Sociology, Policy & Economics; Sustainable Practices; Technology Integration; and Economics, Policies & Regulations. Visit KSS website for more information: <https://kss.iitk.ac.in>