

Third edition of India Ki Khoj kick starts at IITGN

Bilkul News, Ahmedabad, Dec 17: The third edition of India Ki Khoj, an eight-day-long intensive module at IITGN for understanding and appreciation of India, started on Monday (December 15, 2014) with 10 students from California Institute of Technology (Caltech) in US and 13 students from IITGN. The first day of the event kicked off with the participants' discussions about women in India and "Using Song in Hindi Film".

Speaking about women in India at the inaugural event, Director of Zubaan Books, Urvashi Butalia said that one needs to go beyond the statistics of reported rapes and other crimes against women to better understand the real issue. Butalia said that there is a need to get a deeper understanding of the issue by finding out if the rate of all kinds of crime is increasing in the country and if crime against women is a part of it and so on.



Butalia also said that the recently increase in job opportunities in the country has led to internal and external tensions. Butalia said that the opening up of new job opportunities in the country has led women to step out of the walls of the house and access public space leading to desires and tensions.

The day also hosted a talk on "Using Song in Hindi Film" by Nasreen Munni Kabir, an India-born television producer director and author based in the UK.



One of the participants an undergraduate student in Physics at Caltech, *Jacqueline Maslyn* said, *"The programme has a good reputation at Caltech. After hearing a lot of good things about it from many of my seniors who took part in the programme in the previous years, I have been eager to be a part of it."*

Another participant from Caltech, *Nico Salzetta* said that India Khoj is a good opportunity to understand about India from by actually traveling to the country as well as meeting some of the significant people.

India Ki Khoj focuses in introducing Indian society, culture, economy, science, technology and other aspects to its participants through diverse lectures and field visits. The programme is held for the third time and includes a host of interesting visits this year including a trip to Bhasha, centre for tribal languages and culture located in Chhota Udaipur; a visit to Calico Museum. The module also has an impressive line-up of speakers including writer and publisher, Urvashi Butalia; India-born television producer, director and author based in the UK, Nasreen Munni Kabir; Sanjoy Hazarika, Director, Centre for North East Studies and Policy Research at Jamia Millia Islamia, New Delhi; Aditya Sood Founder and CEO of the Vihara Innovation Network, which interweaves a number of innovation organizations in South and South-East Asia and others.