

Cultural immersion for IIT-Gn, foreign students

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Ahmedabad: Students from the California Institute of Technology (Caltech) and the Indian Institute of Technology Gandhinagar (IIT-Gn) will embark on a nine-day discovery of India, both new and old, through an academic module called 'India Ki Khoj' where representatives of various sections of the society will interact with the students and introduce them to Indian mythology, arts and crafts, classical music, popular culture, religion, philosophy, architecture, civilization, politics and business. The event is scheduled from June 19 to 27.

Organizers of the humanities and social sciences programme at IIT-Gn want more international students to



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participate in the events, which are a mix of lectures and field visits. Organizers said that the module will take students through India of the past, present and future making them relate India's ancient traditions of philosophy, science and technology to present-day India and help identify continuities as well as shifts within Indian history.

The speakers and participants in this year's edition include KJA Kannanthanam, former

IAS officer, who brought the literacy revolution to Kerala; Neelkanth Chhaya, CEPT academician and architect; Santosh Desai, MD and CEO of Future Brands; Sandeep Pandey, co-founder of Asha for Education; Meera Goradia, director of Khair that works with artisans from Kutch; Aditya Handa, a green energy entrepreneur; Amruta Patil, a graphic novelist; Nirali Kartik, Indian classical singer; Avni Varia, art curator; and Parmesh Sahani, a journalist.

"The idea behind having these young personalities in the module is to enable students to relate to the topics in a more meaningful way," said IIT-Gn faculty Jaison Manjaly. Some IIT-Gn faculty members will also speak at the workshop.