

IIT Kharagpur

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Press Release, April 24, 2018

Alumni help design customised ambulance as gift for IIT KGP students

In an initiative to strengthen the health and wellness program of IIT Kharagpur, the alumni of the Institute have helped design a customized ambulance for safeguarding dynamic patient requirements and gifted it to their Alma Mater.

The Institute which has earlier launched wellness programs for students has been continually working towards improving our health care and wellness facilities.“We have initiated process for two ambulances similar to those used by superspecialty hospitals for long distance transfer of patients under constant monitoring. The present initiative by the alumni to augment our fleet of ambulances is exemplary considering the time spent and technical expertise extended to custom design this ambulance which shows the level of affection for the students” said Prof. Sriman Kumar Bhattacharya, Deputy Director, IIT Kharagpur.

The campaign was led by the alumni Ranbir Gupta, Asoke Deysarkar, Vinod Gupta and Arjun Malhotra of the IIT Kharagpur Foundation USA. They along with Delhi-based alumnus Achin Juneja worked towards understanding the requirements of the patients from the IIT Kharagpur campus who are referred to hospitals at Kolkata. “The patients need comfort and constant monitoring along with some uninterrupted emergency services during transit. While designing the interiors of the ambulance and the power supply we focused on these aspects” explained Juneja, an electronics engineer who graduated from IIT Kharagpur in 1972. He consulted several doctors and super speciality hospitals in India to ensure best-in-class emergency medical fittings and effective vehicle design for long-distance journey.

The medical equipment include transport ventilator, defibrillator, syringe pump, suction pump, fully regulated oxygen supply system for patient, patient monitor for BP, ECG, oxygen saturation in blood, respiratory rate, pulse rate and a foldable stretcher trolley for comfortable transfer of the patient to and fro the ambulance. The ambulance has dedicated batteries and alternators for uninterrupted power supply and air conditioning one for the patient cabin irrespective of the engine function. The large wheelbase of approximately 3.5 metre give more room inside the patient cabinet. Custom fittings were fabricated such as medical equipment, upgrading internal panels, electrical wiring for fireproofing and fire retardant components etc.

“A big thank you to the IIT Kharagpur Foundation USA for their care and concern for the students. There is a huge opportunity for the alumni to contribute to their Alma Mater, one being the gifts and endowments and the other being mentoring students to expend their prodigious energies through creative activities, fitness program, sports, art forms thus to develop a holistic wellness program for the students” beamed Prof. Subrata Chattopadhyay, Dean Alumni Affairs at IIT Kharagpur.

The Students’ Alumni Cell worked with the US Foundation to materialize this initiative. The students who are currently undergoing their end semester examinations, would rejoice this gift on social media asserted Vishal Singh, the Students’ Vice President at IIT Kharagpur.