

## ALL INDIA COUNCIL FOR TECHNICAL EDUCATION

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## **PRESS RELEASE**

## AICTE's Yuvak scheme help students understand the engineering marvel of Atal Tunnel

- # YUVAK scheme will help create versatile engineers in India: AICTE Chairman Anil D Sahasrabudhe
- # YUVAK scheme help students to get a chance to know more about Atal Tunnel
- # Atal Tunnel has been built under the Rohtang Pass on the Leh-Manali Highway
- # Students who take part in the Yuvak scheme will get first-hand knowledge about the techniques used to construct the tunnel.

**New Delhi, 21st May, 2021.** It was on October 20 that Honourable Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi presented the Atal Tunnel to Indians. Constructed under the Rohtang Pass on the Leh-Manali Highway, the Atal Tunnel is widely considered an engineering marvel. And now, the All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) has launched the Youth Undertaking Visit for Acquiring Knowledge (YUVAK) scheme that allows students to learn the engineering impeccability of the Atal Tunnel.

The launching ceremony of the YUVAK scheme was started with the welcome address by Dr. Amit Kumar Srivastava, Director, Student Development Cell, AICTE. The YUVAK scheme was jointly launched on May 21 by Chairman, AICTE, Professor Anil D Sahasrabudhe & Lt Gen Rajeev Chaudhry, VSM, Director General, Border Roads Organisation. AICTE Vice Chairman Dr. MP Poonia and Member Secretary Professor Rajive Kumar also conveyed their wishes to students who are part of this program.

The primary purpose of this scheme is to provide financial assistance to conduct a study tour to Atal Tunnel for students and faculties of technical education institutions approved by AICTE.

The YUVAK program aims to provide first-hand knowledge and information about the latest techniques used in the construction of the tunnel and in particular about the New Austrian tunnelling method.

Speaking on the occasion, Lt Gen Rajeev Chaudhary, VSM, DG, of the Border Road Organization (BRO) said, " this is very great initiative which is taken by AICTE under the guidance of Prof. Anil Sahasrabudhe, we also salute AICTE for the exemplary service to the Nation. We are always with you and offer our services for joint cooperation in future. ATAL tunnel is very important infrastructure because all section of society will immensely benefit from this as it has reduced time, distance in enrichment of environment and saved transportation cost too."

"The YUVAK program that allows students to understand more about the engineering marvel of the Atal Tunnel will surely enhance the quality of engineering education in India. It will inculcate research and innovation culture among students in the country," said AICTE Chairman Anil D Sahasrabudhe.

AICTE vice-chairman MP Poonia said, "The participation of students in the Yuvak program is a welcome sign. Programs like Yuvak will help to develop engineering brains within the country, and it could do wonders for the nation in the future. The Atal Tunnel measuring 9.02 kilometers in length could help students understand the potential of engineering, and it will inspire them to become a part of the nation-building process."

AICTE Member Secretary Rajive Kumar noted that fine-tuning the engineering brains within the country is very much essential for India's future. According to Raijve Kumar, programs like Yuvak could catalyze the growth of India's engineering sector and will encourage students to be part of projects like Atal Tunnel.

Vote of Thanks was proposed by Mrs Sanju Chaudhary, Assistant Director, Student Development Cell), AICTE, New Delhi.

The Scheme Document of YUCAK can be accessed at <a href="https://www.aicte-india.org/schemes/students-development-schemes">https://schemes/students-development-schemes</a>. Technical Institutes can register at <a href="https://forms.gle/TgDqpjFTNiVVkQfw5">https://forms.gle/TgDqpjFTNiVVkQfw5</a>. The last date for registration is 21 June 2021.

**About Atal Tunnel:** Atal Tunnel is a highway tunnel built under the Rohtang Pass is an all-weather route to Leh and Lahaul and Spiti valleys. At a length of 9.02 km, it is the longest tunnel above 10,000 feet (3,048 m) in the world and is named after former Prime Minister of India, Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee. The tunnel reduces the overall distance between Manali and Leh from 116 kilometers to 71 kilometers and the travel time from five to six hours to about two hours.





YUVAK jointly inaugurated by Lt Gen Rajeev Chaudhary, VSM, DG, Border Road Organization & Prof Anil D Sahasrabudhe, Chairman, AICTE on 21 May 2021