

## Hon'ble Union Minister Sri M. Venkaiah Naidu has Inaugurated Graduate School of Smart Cities Development at GTU, Gandhinagar



On the dias from left: Sri Lilani, the Registrar, Prof. Harinarayana, Director, GERMI, Dr. Aggarwal, VC-GTU, Hon'ble Union Minister, Sri M. Venkaiah Naidu.

Across the globe, the need and urgency of creating “Smart Cities” is now widely recognized. This is required more for the developing and under developed countries where the socio-economic growth is driving a scorching pace of urbanization. It is estimated that every minute, 30 Indians are leaving the villages for urban cities. This will continue for the next 20-30 years. The term “Smart Cities” is broadly used to describe as - well planned cities, designed to achieve high quality of life, sustainable economic growth and prosperity for the citizens. To achieve this, smart infrastructure, streamlined processes and governance are required. Our goal should be to use the resources efficiently, make better decisions, proactively anticipate and resolve the problems. This means utilize the energy and water efficiently, preventing crimes and disasters before it can happen, reducing traffic congestion, improve the citizens’ access to services such as health care etc. and create new job opportunities.

Narrating on the importance, as stated above, Sri M. Venkaiah Naidu, Hon'ble minister for Urban Development, Govt. of India has inaugurated the graduate school at Gujarat Technological University – GTU, Gandhinagar, Gujarat. GERMI-Gujrat Energy Research and Management institute, is promoting this school along with CMAI, GIDB, GIFT city – Dr.Harinarayana, the Director of the institute has said. During the inauguration Naidu has said Narendra bhai government is determined to complete 100 smart cities in India and the initiation of the graduate school in this technological university is timely and the centre supports such initiation.

GERMI recently initiated ANU-GERMI Energy research centre at Nagarjuna University, Guntur. Once the school on smart cities at Gandhinagar, Gujarat is successful, similar such schools can be initiated in other parts of the country in a similar way. Graduates from this school will be in a position to help to develop smart cities in India. The students of this school with skills on smart cities on hand, have the opportunity to enhance their job prospects– Dr. Harinarayana said.