

## ET, Ahmedabad

# Sam Pitroda Wants Research to be Made Multi-disciplinary

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Sam Pitroda, advisor to the Prime Minister, said on Friday that if we want to transform Indian economy into a knowledge-driven economy, the research and development activities and innovations should be multi-disciplinary, collaborative, and require substantial computational power. Experts emphasised on the need to set up National Knowledge Network (NKN) to bring in knowledge revolution in the country.

Mr Pitroda addressed a seminar on "National Knowledge Network – a step towards making India a knowledge-driven economy" in Ahmedabad through video conferencing. NKN project is aimed at establishing a strong and robust internal Indian net-

work which will be capable of providing secure and reliable connectivity. There will be connectivity to 1500+ institutes and with that, NKN is intended to connect all the knowledge and research institutions in the country using high bandwidth / low latency network.

NKN has been designed for reliability, availability and scalability. It was deliberated and finalised at the office of Principal Scientific Advisor (PSA) to the central government and the National Knowledge Commission (NKC) in consultation with the stakeholders like experts, potential users and educational institutions.

"By facilitating computational resource access, common country-wide classrooms, increased peer group interaction and online data-base sharing, NKN can give a

major boost to fields like education, research, healthcare, governance, farm-related technology and weather modeling. This means that it can be of a great importance for social development and growth of agriculture sector as well. These are one of the most important areas as far as India is concerned and NKN holds the key for significant achievements on these fronts," he said.

Gujarat Electronics & Software Industries Association and Indo-American Chamber of Commerce organised the seminar. "All the institutes in India, engaged in generation and dissemination of knowledge, have potential to produce good results provided they are connected through a high speed broadband network as envisaged under NKN project," Mr Pitroda added.



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**SAM PITRODA**  
*Prime Minister's Advisor*