Dr. Sudhir Chandra Sur Institute of Technology and Sports Complex
(Formerly Known as Dr. Sudhir Chandra Sur Degree Engineering College)
540, DumDum Road, Surer Math (Near Dum Dum Jn. Station), Kolkata-700074
Phone: +91 22 25603889, 25603898, 65330375
Website: www.surtech.edu.in; Email-info@dsec.ac.in

Report on the Inauguration of the Kia Automotive Excellence Academy – Kolkata Centre

organized by

Dr. Sudhir Chandra Sur Institute of Technology and Sports Complex

(An Autonomous Institute)

In association with Kia India and the Automotive Skills Development Council (ASDC)

Title: Inauguration of the Kia Automotive Excellence Academy – Kolkata Centre

Dignitaries: Dr. Soumen Basu, Registrar, JIS Group; Mr. Rajat Subhra Ghosh, Mr. Pankaj Kumar Thakur and Mr. Ankit Asthana, representatives of Kia India; and Mr. Aakash Gupta, representative of ASDC.

Organizing Partners: Kia India (under its Skill Up CSR programme) and the Automotive Skills Development Council (ASDC)

Date & Time: 14th November 2026.

Venue: Dr. Sudhir Chandra Sur Institute of Technology and Sports Complex (SURTECH), Kolkata

Number of Participants: 40.

Objective: The objective of the initiative is to strengthen industry–academia collaboration and create new avenues for skill development and career opportunities for diploma and degree students. The academy aims to provide industry-oriented automotive training, practical exposure to advanced technologies and equipment, specialised certifications, opportunities for academic progression, and placement assistance to enhance students' employability in the evolving automotive sector.

Brief Overview: Dr. Sudhir Chandra Sur Institute of Technology and Sports Complex (SURTECH) proudly celebrated the inauguration of the Kia Automotive Excellence Academy – Kolkata Centre, a CSR initiative by Kia India under its Skill Up programme, in association with the Automotive Skills Development Council (ASDC). The initiative marks an important step towards strengthening industry–academia collaboration and creating new avenues for skill development and career opportunities for students.

The inauguration ceremony was graced by Dr. Soumen Basu, Registrar, JIS Group; Mr. Rajat Subhra Ghosh, Mr. Pankaj Kumar Thakur and Mr. Ankit Asthana, representatives of Kia India; and Mr. Aakash Gupta, representative of ASDC. The programme commenced with the formal inauguration of the academy through a ribbon-cutting ceremony, followed by the felicitation of the distinguished guests and the presentation of mementos as a gesture of appreciation and gratitude.

The dignitaries visited the academy's classrooms and workshop facilities to observe the infrastructure, equipment and practical training facilities established to support industry-oriented learning. An interactive session with students highlighted the importance of technical proficiency, hands-on experience and staying abreast of emerging developments in the automotive industry. Through the academy, students will gain exposure to Kia's advanced automotive technologies, modern automotive systems, sophisticated equipment and the latest technological advancements in the sector.

The academy aims to go beyond conventional technical training by supporting students in enhancing their academic and professional qualifications through diploma and degree programmes, industry-oriented training, specialised automotive certifications and placement assistance. It seeks to equip students with the knowledge, practical expertise and professional competencies required to succeed in the rapidly evolving automotive industry.

The dignitaries also visited the institute's extension centre, an additional facility at SURTECH that previously functioned as an Ashok Leyland workshop. The facility holds significant potential for further development into a Centre of Excellence, strengthening the institute's automotive training infrastructure and expanding opportunities for experiential and industry-focused learning. The representatives expressed their satisfaction with the institute's infrastructure and upcoming facilities.
The inauguration of the Kia Automotive Excellence Academy – Kolkata Centre represents a significant milestone in SURTECH's continued commitment to bridging the gap between academic learning and industry expectations. The collaboration aims to empower students with future-ready skills, foster technological innovation and improve employment opportunities for diploma and degree students, in keeping with the demands of the present automotive sector.

Outcome:

1. The academy is expected to strengthen industry–academia collaboration and provide students with access to industry-oriented automotive skill development.
2. Students will gain practical exposure to Kia automotive technologies, modern automotive systems and advanced workshop equipment.
3. The initiative will support the development of technical proficiency, hands-on competence and professional skills relevant to the evolving automotive industry.
4. Diploma and degree students will have opportunities for specialised automotive certifications, further academic progression and placement assistance.
5. The proposed development of the extension centre into a Centre of Excellence has the potential to expand experiential learning and strengthen SURTECH's automotive training infrastructure.

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Few glimpses of the inauguration programme-



Inauguration of the Kia Automotive Excellence Academy – Kolkata Centre at SurTech