



GIDC Degree Engineering College

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Report on visit to 'National Salt Satyagraha Memorial', Dandi

To get knowledge and to give an insight about the memorial encapsulates the ideals of Mahatma Gandhi- Agrah for Swadeshi, Swatcha and Satya, students and faculties of GIDC Degree Engineering College, Navsari visited to 'National Salt Satyagraha Memorial', Dandi, on 2nd February, 2019.

The 'National Salt Satyagraha Memorial', Dandi, Gujarat, India is conceived as an experiential journey recreating the spirit and the energy of the 1930 Dandi March led by Mahatma Gandhi and 80 of his fellow Satyagrahis, taking the visitors to the Monument step-by-step in order to visualise and understand the history of the historic Salt March and the methodology of Satyagraha, which finally led to India's Independence from the British colonial rule. This project, endorsed by the Ministry of Culture, Government of India is advised by a High Level Dandi Memorial Committee (HLDMC) with IIT Bombay as a Design Coordination Agency.

The indigenous technology used at the National Salt Satyagraha Memorial, Dandi, Gujarat is researched and developed by different departments of IIT Bombay, the design coordination agency. They worked together internally and with each other to design and coordinate the execution of the technologies used in the memorial complex. It makes this a first of its kind project for the premier institute. Different technology components include:

The monument is a 40 metre tall steel A-frame with a 2 and half tonne weighing glass crystal placed at the top. The coastal topography of the area meant that its structure had to be wind tunnel tested. The structure was also welded with non-corrosive material like duplex steel to ensure its durability. Another unique feature is the laser lights which rises up and illuminates the glass crystal at night to make it a visually enhancing experience.

Solar Trees

To reflect the ethos of self-sufficiency imbibed by Mahatma Gandhi, 40 Solar Trees were designed, developed and installed. It makes this memorial a net zero-energy project where all the energy required is produced in the memorial itself. It produces energy during the day and exports the extra energy to the electricity grid. During the night, it imports the energy

required back from the grid. This system makes ensures the availability of electricity without the need to install and maintain expensive batteries.

Artificial Lake

An artificial lake was created to symbolise the sea shore aspect of the Salt Satyagraha. It is a non-permeable, geo textile based lake which is sealed from the bottom and top to prevent salt infiltration. Locally available non-corrosive materials were sourced to construct the artificial lake at the National Salt Satyagraha Memorial. The lake is filled with harvested rain water which is then treated to produce sparkling clear.

Solar Salt-Making Pans

Solar Salt-Making Pans will be installed at the Memorial Complex to allow visitors to personally experience salt-making and to make a pinch of salt to be taken away as a memory of the visit to the Memorial. The activity helps to understand Gandhi's call to everyone to make their own salt. The facility enables visitors to make a pinch of salt, that can be taken away as a memory of the visit to the Memorial. The activity celebrates the strategic brilliance of the Mahatma, who used the powerful metaphor of salt to lead use towards independence.

Civil Structures

Based on the soil data and topography, the ground level raised by two meters and the site made suitable for statue, bridge and other structures. The civil structures also warranted the use of non-corrosive material and wind tunnel testing. Even minute aspects like selection of rocks for the landscape was handled carefully by the Design Team.

E-Guided Tour

IIT Bombay is working closely with experts to develop a 60 minute immersive audio tour so that the visual experience of 24 Mural Narratives is enhanced and the visitors of National Salt Satyagraha Memorial have a more holistic experience of the history of the event. At the Dandi Memorial Complex, smart phones are converted into an in-destination personal tour guide enabled by the use an interactive mobile application.

It was a great learning experience for students of all branch of engineering .This monument will keep the fire burning in the heart of every Indian so that we shall not forget the struggles faced by our freedom fighters to achieve the valuable independence of our country.

The visit was co-ordinated by Prof Archana Nayak , Prof Toral Patel & team.

“You must be the change you wish to see in the world.”

M.K.Gandhi

