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**25 awarded for industrial research**

TNN Oct 8, 2011, 06.11AM IST

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CHANGA (Anand):Gujarat is set to become Asia's biggest auto hub. Chief minister [Narendra Modi](#), who completed 10

years in office on Friday, said this while handing over Vasvik industrial research awards to scientists at a function hosted at Charotar University of Science and Technology (CHARUSAT) campus. Modi handed over the Vasvik (Vividhlaxi Audyogik Samshodhan Vikas Kendra) awards to scientists for industrial research. Established in 1973, Vasvik is a non-profit, non-government organization run by Mumbai-based Dr Mohan Patel's family, owners of Patel Extrusion Group. The ex-sheriff of Mumbai, Dr Patel is credited with developing the first ophthalmic nozzle pure aluminum tube in the world.

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This year, 25 scientists have been given awards in eight categories. The award winners include Dr A Ahmed and Dr A J Varma from National Chemical Laboratory (NCL), Pune, Dr Navin Khanna from ICGEB, New Delhi, Dr R V Jasra and Dr V K Gupta from RIL, Vinay Deshpande and Dr Kumar Sivarajan from Bengaluru, former CPCB chairman Paritosh Tyagi, acting director of NEERI, Nagpur Dr Tapan Chakrabarti and former director of IIT Kharagpur Dr S K Dube. Director of IIT Delhi Dr Surendra Prasad, along with other scientists, has been conferred the awards.

As for Gujarat's draw for auto majors, Modi said, "Write it. Any big name in the world of cars will be Made in Gujarat." He added that the state has already taken a lead and is on the path to emerge as Asia's biggest auto hub. While stressing that in a changing scenario innovation would play a major role, he said there would be a time when cities will be not only evaluated on the basis of their civic infrastructure but also on the patents of individuals residing there.

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