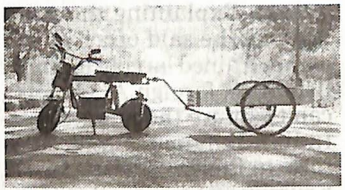
NITK launches diverse fleet of AI driven e-vehicles

ENS @ Mangaluru

THE National Institute of Technology Karnataka, Surathkal (NITK) is at the forefront of a transformative shift in campus transportation by integrating Artificial Intelligence (AI) to optimise the usage of electric vehicles (EVs).

This pioneering initiative is spearheaded by Dr Pruthviraj U, Project Head of the E-Mobility Team at the Centre for System Design (CSD), Professor In-Charge Transdisciplinary R&D, and Prof K V Gangadharan, Coordinator of CSD and Dean of Planning and Development at NITK Surathkal.



VidhYug 2.2.1 launched by NITK | EXPRESS

The team has developed a diverse fleet of electric vehicles, including 15 e-cycles, 5 e-scooters, 2 e-bikes, an e-trike for organic waste collection, and a specially designed quad bike, with additional innovations in the pipeline, for the physically challenged, said a release from NITK.

AI algorithms are employed to predict demand patterns and optimise the deployment and routing of these vehicles across the campus. In addition to the vehicles, the team has engineered 'URJA', a solar-based charging station. AI is utilised to analyse historical data, real-time usage, and campus events to dynamically manage this charging infrastructure. The system's predictive maintenance feature enhances vehicle reliability and extends the lifespan of the EV fleet, exemplified by the current e-scooter model, 'VidhYug 2.2.1'. This model, specifically designed for the hostel office at NITK and financially supported by the Mumbai chapter of the NITK Surathkal Alumni Association, represented by S R Bala, symbolises user-friendly mobility solutions developed by the team. The innovative minds behind this vehicle include Poudhan Kumar, Dixith K, Manish E S, Vikas, Maclin, Niranjan, Prakash, and Shradha Shetty.

The Indian Express, Date:16/12/23, p. no -02