



Speech of
Hon'ble Governor of Andhra Pradesh
Sri Biswa Bhusan Harichandan
at
The 55th Foundation Day Celebrations of KBN
College, Vijayawada on November 06, 2019 at
Vijayawada.

Guests on the dais, Ladies and Gentlemen, Faculty members, students.
ANDARIKI NAMASKARAM.

I am happy to be here amongst you all on the occasion of 55th Foundation Day celebrations of KBN College.

Kakaraparti Bhavanarayana College, popularly known as KBN College, was a dream come true for the citizens of Vijayawada as their long cherished desire to send their children for studies to higher education institution, was realized through the benevolence of Danaseela Purapramukha and Vidya-Poshaka Sri Kakaraparti Bhavanarayana Shresthi, the founder of the college, after whom the college is named.

The foundation stone for the college was laid on 6th November, 1964 by Sri Kasu Brahmananda Reddy, the then Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh and the college became fully functional from July, 1965.

I am happy to note that the KBN college has made giant strides over the past five decades and has come to be known as one of the most sought after higher education institutions in Vijayawada.

The college is endowed with good infrastructure and such as state-of-the art Library including a Digital Library and a spacious Reading Room, expansive playgrounds, well-equipped Gymnasium and an open air theatre.

The 'Autonomous College' status achieved by the KBN College in the year 2010 and the awards won by the college such as Best Laboratory, Best Academic achievement, Best Library, Best NSS Unit etc. speaks volumes about the untiring efforts of the management, faculty and students.

Achievements such as NAAC 'A' grade in 2013 and All India 92nd Rank in National Institute Ranking Framework by Ministry of Human Resource Dept in 2017, goes on to show the dedication and commitment of the team.

However, all the accolades won by the KBN College, bring with them greater responsibility to ensure that quality and standards are maintained by the institution, at all times and keep the flag of the college flying high.

Autonomy status bestowed on the college also mandates that the college continues its efforts for excellence in academic performance and ensure delivery of quality of education.

Higher education plays an important role in terms of economic development of the country. India's higher education system is the world's third largest in terms of students, next to China and the United States. In future, India will be one of the largest education hubs.

The 'Right to Education Act' which stipulates compulsory and free education to all children within the age groups of 6-14 years, has brought about a revolutionary change in the education system of the country.

The involvement of private sector in higher education has seen drastic changes in the field. Today over 60% of higher education institutions in India are promoted by the private sector. The number of Universities has also increased.

Despite these numbers, many of our educational institutions are not finding place in the international education rating such as QS world Ranking of Universities and TIME Higher Education ranking. India provides highly skilled people to other countries. If the same skilled manpower is retained in the country, India can transform itself from a developing nation to a developed nation.

Higher education should provide equal opportunities to all because higher education is a powerful tool to reduce or eliminate income and wealth disparities.

Ensuring quality in higher education is amongst the foremost challenges faced in the country today. Skill development should be made part of the regular curriculum of college education, to ensure that the gap between the skills needed by the industry and skills possessed by the graduates can be bridged.

Industry-linkage and Internship programmes will also benefit the students to become job-ready, once they graduate from the college.

Before concluding, let us recall Mahatma Gandhi's words on education –

“Literacy in itself is no education. Literacy is not the end of education or even the beginning. By education I mean an all-round drawing out of the best in the child, man – body, mind and spirit.”

Jai Hind