



सत्यमेव जयते

Hon'ble Governor of Andhra Pradesh  
Sri Biswa Bhusan Harichandan  
participates as Chief Guest  
at the 12th Foundation Day programme of  
IIT Bhubaneswar at 5.30 PM on 12th February 2020

Professor R. V. Raja Kumar, Director IIT Bhubaneswar, Shri Subroto Bagchi, Chairman, Skill Development Council of Govt of Odisha, Members of the faculty and staff, beloved students of the Institute, members of IIT Bhubaneswar community, Representatives of media, Ladies and Gentlemen, Very Good Evening to you all !

My heart is filled with great joy on visititing IIT Bhubaneswar and be amongst you all on the occasion of 12th Foundation Day.

As you know, this Institute was started twelve years ago as a member of the extended family of the IIT system, and the Temple City of Bhubaneswar emerging as a Hub of Education and Knowledge along with other leading premier Institutions of the country in the domains of science (NISER), medical (AIIMS), research (IIMT and IoP) etc., to name a few along with this vibrant IIT.

This land had an extremely high expectations of IIT Bhubaneswar to become a role model institution with standard of teaching, research, consultancy, and entrepreneurship and setting the benchmark, for other institutions to follow.

As a person hailing from this very land, I had an emotional connection with its historic freedom struggle. It is heartening to me to know that the institute could rise to emerge as a leader in all fronts and also started teaching and research programmes as well as taking up collaborative projects in fields that are commensurate with the rich natural resources of Odisha, for the benefit of common man of the country.

I am glad to understand that just within a little more than one decade of its existence, the Institute has started new branches and new academic programmes on par with any other similar Institutions known for several decades in this country.

I was associated with the Institute as the then Industry Minister from the beginning, right from acquisition of land in this place till its completion, where there was nothing. The Institute has created its own lush greenery and beautiful campus, moved into it, taken up various industry- and government-sponsored collaborative programmes, ventured into various innovations.

It is heartening to see a completely transformed place emerging as a reputed institute. I am delighted to learn that the Institute has made its presence known globally by taking commendable proactive steps in getting international faculty and international collaborative projects and rising steeply by improving its standards and getting recognition as a highly ranked institute.

I am indeed very happy to learn that the Institute has been improving its rank steadily, ahead of its sister institutes, by various national and international ranking agencies. I firmly believe that this rise of the Institute is a pointer to the innovative, effective, recent initiatives taken up by the Institute.

As I entered the campus, I have seen a number of upcoming infrastructure works nearing the stage of completion. The Phase II construction activities, now in progress also indicate the ambitious plans that the Institute is coming up with in the near future.

I expect that when materialized, these plans will pave the Institute to scale and reach new heights. My congratulations to you all and especially to the Director of the Institute, Professor R. V. Raja Kumar, who led the Institute to achieve new heights.

I have been informed of the successful co-organization of one of the highly acclaimed Inter- IIT sports meets by the IIT Bhubaneswar which demonstrates the capability of the Institute to take up any challenges.

The location of the Institute in Arugul at the foot of Barunei hills adds an historic significance to the Institute. It was at this very location Jayi Rajguru, fought valiantly against the British occupation of Khurda Garh in 1804. It was here that Baxi Jagabandhu led the historic Paika Rebellion of 1817 against the mighty British regime, which was a bloody mass Revolution of the Oriyas. It was actually the first war of Independence of the country and its bi-centenary celebration was observed by the Government of India in 2017.

I fervently wish that the Faculty and students of IIT Bhubaneswar imbue the leadership qualities of the likes of Jayi Rajguru and Baxi Jagabandhu to eradicate poverty and inequality in our country and lead the nation in the path of development and prosperity with the help of tools of modern science and technology.

The Faculty plays a significant role in transferring the knowledge and shaping the students, into builders of the new Nation.

I call upon the Faculty of this Institute to be the role model for the students. They should charm the students with their sincerity, honesty, independent thinking, hard work, and capacity to innovate and implement.

Simultaneously I call upon the students to absorb new information, develop an inquiring mind, and be rational, creative and innovative. I know that you all have come here after successfully competing in the most difficult entrance examination of the country. The country expects a lot from you. Wherever you work and whatever you do, you must keep the country's interests at the top of your mind and give back to the society, what you gained from the society.

I call upon all of you to be technological leaders and social entrepreneurs and be the change agents to transform our country to be one of the most developed countries of the world.

Before concluding, I would like to impress upon you that technology alone cannot solve all the problems and at times, human touch is also necessary.

Here, I am reminded of a quotation which says:

“One machine can do the work of fifty ordinary men. No machine can do the work of one extraordinary man.”

I wish the IIT Bhubaneswar grand success in all its future endeavors.

Jai Hind