



Prof. Virander Singh Chouhan, Chairman, National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC), Prof. K.K. Aggarwal, Chairman, National Board of Accreditation (NBA), Prof. K.C. Reddy, Rajiv Gandhi University of Knowledge Technologies, Sri Satish Chandra, Special Chief Secretary, Higher Education, Prof. K. Hemachandra Reddy, Chairman, AP State Council of Higher Education, Dr. Karisiddappa, Vice Chancellor, Viswesvaraya Technological University, Dr. S. Srinivas Kumar, Vice Chancellor, JNTU, Anantapur, Guests and Speakers of today's session, friends from media, Ladies and Gentlemen.

It gives me immense pleasure to address you all on the occasion of '2nd Tech VCs Conclave 2020' organised by the Jawaharlal Nehru Technological University, Anantapur.

It is heartening to note that Jawaharlal Nehru Technological University Anantapur, is organi-zing a two day 'Tech VCs' Conclave 2020' in collaboration with Visvesvaraya Technological University, Belagavi, Karnataka and All India Council for Technical Education.

I understand that the Conclave will be attended by eminent academicians and Heads of various apex bodies of Education in the Country like University Grants Commission (UGC), National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC), National Board of Accreditation (NBA), All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE), and others.

Unlike earlier days, we are living in a technology-driven society and there is no aspect of our life which is not touched by Technology. Technology is making rapid strides in all aspects, rendering technology obsolete within no time.

Under these circumstances, it is essential for Technical Education Providers, Regulatory bodies and Academicians to meet on a common platform and deliberate on the current scenario of Technical Education in the Country, the gaps to be bridged, the opportunities lying ahead and more importantly how technical education can transform the well being of the society and enhance quality of life of the people.

The Technological Universities in the country have to shoulder the responsibility of producing a highly skilled quality manpower that will become the backbone of social development and advancement. The Engineers produced by these institutions will rise to be future leaders of the country in the areas like Telecommunications, Information Technology, Infrastructure Development, Space Technology and so on.

The Indian engineers, who have gone abroad and settled there, are bringing laurels to the country by occupying the higher positions of leadership in Global Technological Companies like Microsoft, Google, IBM, Adobe etc. and making the country proud of their achievement.

It has been proved beyond doubt that the Engineering students of India have tremendous capabilities in absorbing new concepts and adapting to new environments as India has a rich heritage of high quality technological education and innovation since ancient times.

It is pertinent to note at this juncture that the Central Government is coming up with a new National Education Policy with the objective of total transformation of the teaching and learning process right from School Education to high level Technological Education.

The New Education Policy can be a basis to devise policies that give a new direction to the Technical Education in the country with objectives such as efforts to increase Gross Enrollment Ratio (GER), inclusion of employability skills in the curriculum and finally producing a student with

overall development, rooted firmly in the ethics and moral heritage of our country.

Similarly the Government of Andhra Pradesh is also planning several structural changes in the Higher Education system so as to improve the skill sets of students.

I hope the delegates attending the Conclave will take these aspects into consideration during their deliberations.

I also wish that the Conclave will focus on areas for the development of curriculum designed to meet the demands of the Industry and the society as well as impart the required entrepreneurship skills to the students to make them self-reliant and encouraging them to go for their own Start-up ventures. Setting up of Incubation Centres in Technological Universities can play a vital role in this direction.

In this backdrop, I hope the Vice Chancellors and the Heads of Regulatory bodies, attending the Conclave shall discuss about the best practices to be adopted in administering the Higher Education Institutions, Challenges faced in imparting state-of-the-art technological education and also the policies to be developed in this direction.

I earnestly hope that the Conclave will set an example for development of the Technological Education in the country and I wish the Conclave a grand success.

I congratulate the team of Organisers for their efforts in hosting such an important and timely event.

Jai Hind