



सत्यमेव जयते

RAJ BHAVAN

Press Note:

Governor Biswa Bhusan Harichandan conferred 'Kalinga Ratna' award

Vijayawada, April 02: Andhra Pradesh Governor Sri Biswa Bhusan Harichandan has been conferred the 'Kalinga Ratna' award for the year 2021. The award instituted by Sarala Sahitya Sansad was presented to Governor Sri Biswa Bhusan Harichandan by Sri M. Venkaiah Naidu, Vice President of India, during the 600th Birth Anniversary of Adikabi Sarala Das and 40th Annual Celebrations of Sarala Sahitya Sansad during the programme held at Sarala Bhawan in Cuttack on Friday. The Kalinga Ratna award carried a silver statue of Goddess Saraswati and a copper plaque.

Vice President Sri Venkaiah Naidu described Sarala Das as Adi Kavi and a genius in the field of Odia literature. The Vice President said 'Sarala Mahabharat' written by Sarala Das in the 15th century, the first complete Mahabharat in a regional language, is a classic example of popularity and adoption of literature in the spoken dialect. Vice President Sri Venkaiah Naidu congratulated Andhra Pradesh Governor Sri Biswa Bhusan Harichandan on conferring the Kalinga Ratna award. Speaking on the occasion, Andhra Pradesh Governor Sri Biswa Bhusan Harichandan said literary works should be in a manner to make it attractive to children and anything learnt in one's mother tongue will never be forgotten. Literature learnt during one's childhood leads them to their personality development at a later stage, said Governor Sri Harichandan. Governor Sri Biswa Bhusan Harichandan said Sarala Das was an excellent literary genius of 15th century who is well known as Adi Kavi, who contributed to epic literary works in Odia in a spoken dialect easily read and understood by everyone.

Odisha Governor Prof. Ganeshi Lal, Union Minister for Petroleum and Natural Gas & Steel Sri Dharmendra Pradhan, President of Sarala Sahitya Sansad Dr. Prabhakar Swain, several poets and literary personalities participated in the programme.