

Speech by the Director

on the occasion of 62nd Independence Day, 15th August 2008

My dear students, staff, faculty, NCC Officers and Cadets,

On the occasion of 62nd Independence Day, I extend to you all including our alumni, my greetings and best wishes for your happiness, progress & achievements.

On this occasion we must remember with gratitude the devoted and gallant services of our Armed Forces who are guarding frontier on the land area the sea and in the air.

My dear students!

The only permanence in life is change. So it is best to adopt, and benefit, from change.

The reasonable person adopts one self to the world; the unreasonable one persists in trying to adopt the world to oneself. Therefore, all progress depends on the unreasonable persons!

Creativity is allowing yourself to make mistakes. The most suppressed of human potential is creativity of humans.

This is because humans are taught by an inherently limiting system of doing what they see and are told by those around them viz., parents, teachers, and friends. We are put into a box of limitations from the time we are born. Thinking and acting outside this box becomes a daunting task that only few venture out of. Hence thinking and acting differently requires conviction and courage.

You need to have an open mind to new ideas, no matter how absurd. Some of these could then evolve into sensible actions and breakthrough developments.

Creativity needs time, patience and persistence. But above all it calls for the right attitude. Being open to any and every idea without ridiculing any would be the right approach. Better tomorrow lies in today's creativity.

I quote the following from the address to the nation by the President of India, Her Excellency Smt. Pratibha Devisingh Patil on the eve of the 62nd Independence Day.

I quote

' Science and Technology holds the key to progress in today's knowledge based societies. Productivity of capital, labour and resources is dependent on the technology used. India is currently focused on expanding its physical infrastructure, enhancing its industrial and agriculture productivity. Our scientists and researchers should find efficient and cost-effective options for growth.'

As a developing country our demands for energy are growing. We cannot let lack of energy become a constraint on our ability to deliver high levels of growth. With the challenges, of increased oil prices, and climate changes, the question of energy security confronts us. We need to look at energy mixes that are sustainable in the long run and are cleaner sources of energy, gradually making a deliberate shift to renewable energy. It should be our national mission to begin exploring ways in which new sources of energy can be harnessed viably. Technologies that increase efficiency in energy intensive sectors need to be developed. Similarly, patterns of consumption, based on conservation and efficient use that save energy and reduce level of emissions need to be adopted. Any contribution to save energy is a step towards environment protection and in saving the wide diversity of flora and fauna on the planet." I unquote.

Let me quote Rabindranath Tagore in Gitanjali

I quote "

"Where the mind is without fear and the head is held high;

Where knowledge is free;

Where the world has not been broken up into fragments by narrow domestic walls;

Where words come out from the depth of truth;

Where tireless striving stretches its arms towards perfection;

Where the clear stream of reason has not lost its way into the dreary desert sand of dead habit;

Where the mind is led forward by thee into ever-widening thought and action -Into that heaven of freedom, my father, let my country awake"

I unquote.

My dear students !

“If you stop learning, you stop growing and start decaying”

Let me quote the sayings of Visvesvaraya. I quote

“Success in life depends on action, that is, on what you do, and not what you feel or think, and the price of success is hard work”

“It is better to serve like steel than rust and wither away like iron”

I unquote.

My dear students, staff, faculty, NCC Officers and Cadets,

I take this opportunity to wish all of you peace, progress and achievement.

May God bless you all !

Jai Hind ! Jai Maha