ADDRESS
OF
HIS EXCELLENCY
LT GEN NIRBHAY SHARMA,
PVSM, UYSM, AVSM, VSM (RETD)
GOVERNOR
OF
ARUNACHAL PRADESH
ON THE OCCASION OF
ANNUAL SCHOOL DAY FUNCTION
OF
RAMAKRISHNA MISSION SCHOOL,
NAROTTAM NAGAR
TIRAP DISTRICT
ON
30TH JANUARY, 2015
Reverent Swami ji, teachers, staff and my dear students of R.K. Mission School.

May I commence proceedings of the day by remembering our Father of the Nation on his Martyrdom Day. Let us take a pledge on this Day to live up to the dreams of Mahatma of a true ‘Ram Rajya’ providing equal opportunities to all and nurture our unity in diversity.

At the very outset, I congratulate all the award winners in academic, games and sports activities. I hope the awards, which have been conferred on you will further encourage each one of you and also your colleagues to excel more in life. Being the winners of important awards, you have become idols for your colleagues and have to live upto it.

The onus is now on you to prepare yourselves for the responsibilities that lie ahead. To face the future with confidence and fulfilling the dream of modern India, the students must inculcate in themselves a sense of discipline, a spirit of tolerance, a quest for knowledge, a positive mind and respect for fellow human beings.
Let me elaborate these.

**First, discipline yourself.** As Lord Buddha said, I quote, ‘To enjoy good health, to bring true happiness to one’s family, to bring peace to all, one must first be disciplined and control one's own mind. If a man can control his mind he can find the way to Enlightenment, and all wisdom and virtue will naturally come to him’. Unquote.

Discipline leads to respect for each other, which in turn creates peace and harmony in the campus and in the society. Discipline helps to grow as a responsible and responsive citizen.

**Secondly, quest for knowledge**, you have to be inquisitive and curious only then can you grow and education imparts that knowledge. Also, knowledge has no boundaries and to achieve it, one has to rise above narrow regional and local confines.
Thirdly, **excellence is the key**. In this world today, mediocrity has no value. Strive to be excellent and best in whatever field you choose. Whether a doctor, engineer, artiste, soldier, social worker and so on. I always maintain that an excellent carpenter is better than an average engineer.

**Fourthly, don’t be trapped by dogma**, which is living with the results of other people’s thinking. Don’t let the noise of others’ opinion drown out your own inner voice. And most importantly, have the courage to follow your heart and intuition. Everything else is secondary.

**Fifthly, have a purpose in life**. One’s purpose in life has an overriding influence upon what he does with his time, energy, and resources. It can also have a profound effect upon how he relates to other people. Without this purpose, life has no compass and meaning. It is essential to define what is our purpose in life.
As Swami Vivekananda said, I quote, ‘Take up one idea. Make that one idea your life-think of it, dream of it, live on that idea. Let the brain, muscles, nerves, every part of your body, be full of that idea, and just leave every other idea alone. This is the way to success, and this is the way great spiritual giants are produced. Others are mere talking machines.’ Unquote. I hope my dear students, you will identify the purpose for your life and will strive towards its achievement.

I am sure that you have heard ‘Mann Ki Baat’ of President of USA Barack Obama and our Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi in radio or Television. Both of them had humble beginnings. In the radio programme, Prime Minister had said and I quote, “Never dream of becoming something. If you wish to dream, dream of doing something. When we do something, we get satisfaction, and also get inspiration to do something new. If we only dream of becoming something, and cannot fulfill the dream, then we only get disappointed”. Unquote. Therefore, dream big to do something.
I would like to remind the learned teachers that one of the biggest challenges we face today is creating human resource qualified to meet the needs of today’s dynamic world. We must make our students ready for avenues for employment, entrepreneurship and industry. By making our research, designing our courses, relevant to the present requirement and promote entrepreneurship.

As you all know, our State is on a path of rapid development and will become the power house of the Nation in next decade or so, with an estimated capacity of 55,000 MW of hydel power. It also has immense potential in tourism. These two sectors along with horticulture and allied sectors are the future engines for the growth of Arunachal Pradesh. **We need to prepare our human resource keeping in view the future requirement of our State and the country. We have to realize that we need highly skilled individuals for our industries and other sectors.**
I am greatly touched by the spiritual and philanthropic approach of Rama Krishna Mission Order in the service of the people of this nascent State.

I have also visited Sarada Mission in my first visit to Tirap District. I am very impressed by the works of Reverent Matajis and teachers. The followers of the Order may have faced many challenges but gracious smile on their faces reflects the spirit and blessing of Reverent Saint Ramakrishna Paramahans ji, Maa Sarada Devi ji and Swami Vivekananda ji. I am certain that this noble tradition will continue.

In the last forty-four years, Ramakrishna Mission School, Narottam Nagar has been a significant pillar in nation building. It has not only been a mere school for academic excellence, but an institution which upholds and instills the values of discipline, selflessness, compassion, intellectual curiosity and sense of fairness.
Today we have large numbers of officers, doctors, engineers and business leaders and social workers amongst its alumni who are contributing towards the development of the State and Nation. We have Shri Kaling Tayeng, Chief Electoral Officer of the State who did his schooling from here and so were our promising leaders, Late Setong Sena and Late Wangcha Rajkumar, sadly we lost them.

I am overwhelmed to see many national awards being given to learned teachers and brilliant students of the school and to institution itself for its benevolence service for the child welfare. I congratulate the Ramakrishna Mission, Narottam Nagar for the excellent academic records.

Another very important aspect that I am pleased to note is the social services it has been rendering in the villages and rural areas around the school, in the form of free medical camps etc. I am confident that the Mission will continue its excellent tradition in the future as well.
Arunachal Pradesh is a gifted land with rich biodiversity. It is one of the global biodiversity hotspots and home to a fascinating array of wildlife. New species of flora and fauna are still being discovered every now and then in this pristine ecosystem, which offers a wide range of tangible as well as intangible benefits. I have faith in my young people that you will go extra mile to preserve our treasure flora and fauna.

As you all know, Mahatma Gandhi dedicated his life for freedom of our country and strengthening communal harmony. At the same time, he also advocated for cleanliness and good habits. Gandhi ji considered cleanliness next to Godliness and called sanitation more important than political freedom.

To realize Gandhi’s dream of ‘Clean India’, the Government of India has launched ‘Swachchh Bharat Abhiyan’. It is the vision of our beloved Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi ji to have a five-year programme to make our country clean.
The goal is to achieve Swachchh Bharat by 2nd October 2019, as a befitting tribute to Mahatma Gandhi on his 150th birth anniversary. The task may appear to be mammoth, but is doable and must be accomplished to see a healthy and vibrant India.

We all have equal stakes in this national movement and owe it to our future generations as well. Therefore, let us rise and be in the forefront of this campaign. Let us devote at least two-hours every week towards cleanliness. Today, I am very happy to see the clean and green campus. I wish you would continue this spirit, share it around you and carry it forward as a mission until we reach our goal of Swachchh Arunachal Pradesh and Swachchh Bharat.

You know, I have rendered more than forty years of service in the Army. I know the life in armed forces. It is a noble profession with the highest traditions of valour and self sacrifice. It’s a big family bonded by love and respect. The armed forces take care of every aspect of your life, during service and thereafter.
I know that the spirit of patriotism historically runs deep in veins of all Arunachalees and their participation in the mainstream of National Defence is growing. I am confident that with motivation from our Reverent Swamijis, learned teachers, guardians, public leaders and representatives, many of you here today will join the Armed forces and serve the Nation.

Before I conclude my speech, I would also like to take this opportunity to express my continued support to the institution for better tomorrow of the State and the country.

I extend my heartiest greetings and best wishes for the New Year to my beloved students, teachers, reverent Swamijis and distinguished guests and invitees.

I would like to conclude my speech with my favourite quotation by Swami Vivekananda. I quote.

**Arise, awake, and stop not till the goal is reached.**

Unquote.

Jai Hind.