

Report

Constitution Day on 26 November 2015 as part of the Celebration of 125th Birth Year of Dr. B. R. Ambedkar

Constitution day was celebrated in National Institute of Industrial Engineering (NITIE) on 26th November 2015 as part of the Celebration of 125th Birth Year of Dr. B. R. Ambedkar. The event commenced at 10.40 a.m. The programme formally commenced by the warm inaugural welcome conducted by students of NITIE in Auditorium. Dr. B. R. Ambedkar was paid homage by eminent guests by garlanding and lighting candle before his photograph on the stage. The Chief Guest, Dr. Avatthi Ramaiah, Professor of Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Mumbai was welcomed by presenting him token of remembrance as a Shawl, Bouquet and NITIE souvenir by Dr. (Ms) Karuna Jain, Director of NITIE.



Sitting on the dais (from left to right): Dr. B. M. Ghodeswar, Chairman of the Committee, Dr. (Ms.) Karuna Jain, Director, NITIE, Chief Guest Dr. Avatthi Ramaiah, Professor of TISS Mumbai, and Dr. Utpal Kumar Debnath, Registrar I/c

The welcome address was delivered by Prof. B. M. Ghodeswar, Chairman of the Celebration Committee. He emphasized that in order to recognize the year 2015-16 as 125th Birth Anniversary of Dr. B. R. Ambedkar, the series of events during year-long celebrations in the Institute will be conducted. The events, in particular, planned during the year are: seminar, quizzes, essay competitions, debates/extempore competitions both for staff as well as students. Prize distribution of these events will be held during the event in April 2016 to mark the 125th Birth anniversary of Dr. B. R. Ambedkar. He outlined the programme of the Constitution Day and highlighted the activities organized in the Institute in celebration of the Constitution Day, viz. talk by the Chief guest on the theme 'Constitution of India: Preamble and Its Philosophy', Display of books in Institute Library on Dr Ambedkar's life and his writings, and Display of prominent thoughts of Dr. B. R. Ambedkar at the venue in the Institute. The remnant presence of the eminent personality got reinvigorated by listening to a two-minute audio clip of Dr. Ambedkar's actual speech delivered in the parliament while adopting the Constitution in Constituent Assembly. It was firm, strong and visionary.

Prof. (Ms.) Karuna Jain, Director NITIE marked the occasion by giving her address based on Directive Principles of State Policy and Constitution of India, in Hindi as well as English. She mentioned that India's Constitution stands out in myriad ways. It is flexible, detailed and practical.

She spoke on social revolution and ‘harmony and balance between our rights and duties’ enshrined in the Constitution of India. In her address she said, “The constitution is the foundation of the country's political system under which its people are governed. Constitution of any State legislature, executive and judiciary wings establishes their powers, the demarcation of their obligations and regulates their relations with the public. In fact, each of the ideals of its founders and creators of the Constitution is the mirror of the values and dreams of the people and is based on the specific social, political and economic goals and faith and aspirations of its people.” Further, Dr. Jain said, “Dr. B. R. Ambedkar studied all of these issues in depth and presented the Constitution of India for the elimination of all these social disparities for which we all are grateful to him. Finally, I would like to say to all of you that we all have to be committed to, get guided by our Constitution, and strive to build on this foundation for progressive development of the country.”



Dr. (Ms.) Karuna Jain, Director, NITIE while reading the Preamble of the Constitution of India

The Preamble reading was done by the Director Dr. Karuna Jain and followed by everyone present in the assembly of people consisting of faculty, officers, staff, students and all others.



Preamble Reading by all present on the Constitution Day

Dr. Utpal Kumar Debnath, Registrar I/c spoke on the occasion and delved upon the thoughts of Dr. Ambedkar. He elaborated on prominent thoughts of Dr. B. R. Ambedkar, viz. “Cultivation of mind should be the ultimate aim of human existence”, and “Life should be great rather than long”. He explained the power of these thoughts through some examples and proved how relevant they are for well-being of the society.

Thereafter, the Chief Guest was cordially introduced by Shri Debashish Choudhary, Deputy Registrar (Admn.), NITIE.

Chief Guest of the event, Dr. Avatthi Ramaiah, Professor, Centre for Social Exclusion and Inclusive Policies, Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Mumbai has delivered his speech on the theme "Constitution of India: Preamble and its Philosophy". The main focus of the programme was sharing of thoughts of the eminent Chief Guest Prof. Avatthi Ramaiah on the subject. Dr. Ramaiah highlighted the aspects of the 7-member Drafting Committee, 'Evolution of the Constitution' comprising of 395 articles, and challenges faced while drafting the Constitution. He said that the Indian Constitution is unique, flexible and highly practical. He said, "The Preamble reflects the philosophy as well as fundamental values of Indian Constitution adopted on 26th November 1949. It clarifies important aspects, viz. (i) the Constitution derives its Authority from the people of India, (ii) it declares India to be sovereign, socialist, secular, democratic and republic country, and (iii) it clarifies that the objectives of the Constitution are Justice, Liberty, Equality and Fraternity."



Dr. Avatthi Ramaiah, the chief guest while delivering the speech

Dr. Ramaiah spoke on the meaning of the Preamble and explained the very philosophy of the Constitution through the meaning of Justice, Liberty, Equality and Fraternity. He highlighted the attainment of Fraternity through Liberty and Equality. Every aspect was explained in very simple language and through stories depicting day-to-day happenings. He further said, "basic tenets of our constitution are "Freedom of Mind" and "Welfare" as key to country's development. Constitution provides a scientific approach to manage a society. Without a social democracy, we cannot achieve political democracy." He spoke at length on the constitutional rights. Dr. Ramaiah advised the audience to 'celebrate the mind (the thoughts) of Dr. B. R. Ambedkar'. His speech was highly commended by all present in the programme.

Lastly, the Vote of thanks was delivered by Dr. K. Maddulety, Associate Professor, NITIE. The programme concluded with national anthem.

The programme on Constitution Day was attended by faculty members, officers, staff, students and others in large numbers and actively participated in the event. They have also browsed through the display of thoughts and display of publications on the life and writings of Dr. B. R. Ambedkar.