

Speech of His Excellency the Governor of Jharkhand Shri K.Sankaranarayanan on the occasion of inauguration of the Vocational Education Centre and the Multipurpose Building of the Jharkhand Academic Council on 21st August 2009 at 11.30 A.M at the Gyandeeep Campus Ranchi .

Smt. Mridula Sinha, Secretary, HRD, Members of Jharkhand Academic Council & its Chairman, ladies and gentlemen.

At the very outset I must thank the Jharkhand Academic Council (JAC) and its Chairman for inviting me to inaugurate the Vocational Education Centre and the Multipurpose Building of the Council. I am indeed happy to visit the impressive campus of this important educational institution of the state.

JAC is an autonomous umbrella body, that has been entrusted with the task conducting examinations, at the end of standard 12th, standard 10th, Madhyama Education for Sanskrit and Madrasa Education. More than 6 lakh students of different levels take part in the examinations conducted by the Council every year. This Council also undertakes the job of prescribing courses of study for the above examinations and for recommending to the state government recognition of Intermediate Education Institutions, High Schools, Sanskrit Schools and Madrasas. In view of the comprehensive responsibilities given to the council it is clear that the JAC plays a vital role in the educational set up of Jharkhand and is a bridge between Secondary Education and Higher Education.

I have been informed of the various initiatives taken by JAC in the discharge of its duties, namely, -

1. Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) curriculum has been adopted, both at the secondary level and at intermediate level to enable our students,

- to take part in the main stream of national education programme freely and naturally.
2. JAC is the Accredited Board of the Association of Indian Universities and hence its examinations are treated at par with corresponding examination of other Boards in the country.
 3. The Council has initiated its own courses of study in subjects having particular relevance to Jharkhand such as -Anthropology, Geology and Tribal and Regional languages such as Kurmali, Mundari, Nagpuri, Panch-Pargania, Ho, Santali and Kuruk.
 4. The Council has given merit certificates and a lump sum financial grant of RS.4,000/- to each of the blind students securing first division in the Secondary Examination since 2006.
 5. The Council has been publishing Model Questions with Model Answers prepared by experts in the subjects concerned every year since 2006 for better guidance of students appearing at the Examinations.
 6. The Council has developed its own Website for publication of results and display of other important information.
 7. The council has also introduced Five Point Grading System from the Secondary Education of 2009 in keeping with the modern systems of evaluation.
 8. JAC has hosted the All India Annual Conference of COBSE(Council of Boards of School Education in India) on the subject "Strategies for Universalisation of Secondary education in India: The Role of Boards".

It is gratifying to note that there has been an impressive growth both at the secondary as well as at the intermediate level, in the number of students appearing for the examinations as well as in their pass percentage. It is also a matter of satisfaction that examinations of Class X and Class XII have been held regularly and computerized results have been published on line and in time as per the Academic calender.

I am happy to note that JAC has in a span of six years been able to mobilize internal resources to make it financially self-sufficient. Not only has the Council spent Rs.18.67 crores of its own funds for development of its own infrastructure but it also has a Corpus Fund of Rs.110.00 crores for supporting its future activities.

The stress on Vocational education as expressed by dedicating a separate building for it, is indeed a very welcome move. In the coming years the country needs more and more people who are equipped with job oriented vocational training.

India is a developing nation but we will reap this demographic dividend only if educational institutions like the Jharkhand Academic Council discharge their duties in an exemplary manner with honesty and integrity having the interest of students upper-most in their minds.

I hope that Jharkhand Academic Council will keep up its good work and continue to make a positive contribution in the field of education in Jharkhand.

Jai Hind, Jai Jharkhand