

Speech of His Excellency Shri M.O.H. Farook, Governor of Jharkhand on the occasion of Pratibha Samman Function on 8th August, 2010 at Ranchi Club, Ranchi.

Chairman, JPSC, Shri Alope Kr. Sengupta, Senior General Manager, HT Media Shri B.M.Chatterjee, Senior. Resident Editor, HR Head, HT Media, Representatives of Media, ladies & Gentlemen;

I am delighted to participate in the Pratibha Samman Function organized by Hindustan Media Ventures Limited (Hindustan) today. HT Media found its beginning in 1924 when its flagship newspaper, Hindustan Times was inaugurated by Mahatma Gandhi. Produced by an editorial team known for its quality, innovation and integrity, Hindustan Times (English newspaper) and Hindustan (Hindi newspaper through a subsidiary Hindustan Media Ventures Limited), are leading newspapers of the country. Both dailies enjoy strong brand recognition among readers as well as advertisers.

Education plays a vital role in the development and progress of any Country. Education is regarded as the backbone of any society. The Government has been striving since Independence to achieve 100% literacy and has come a long way. India's future rests on the shoulders of today's students.

I think this is a great initiative in encouraging and re-cognizing Good Performers. Very few Corporate have a sense of social responsibility but Hindustan is going a long way in fulfilling its Corporate Social Responsibility through such events.

This program was started for the first time in 2005 by this Group and has become very popular and a lot of other institutions have also started this event, I am delighted to know that Hinduastan is continuously adding value to this program and has taken a new initiative by adding 4 scholarships of rupees 1 lakh each in Jharkhand this year. These scholarships are for those students who have got more than 80% marks in ICSE and Jharkhand Board or 9.7 percentile in CBSE and belong to families with a monthly income of less than rupees 20,000 to encourage them in their higher studies. Such an initiative is very important so that a person with high calibre doesn't suffer because of a lack of funds.

I extend my heartiest congratulations to all the students who have come here today. I am very happy to see you all. You have made all of us very proud by your excellence in the academic front. All of you are Winners. You all are the future of our Country and I am sure that all of you will excel in your chosen fields if you keep up this spirit.

Our Country needs people like you to excel in different fields to take us to higher levels of development and progress in the future.

I once again thank Hindustan for this great initiative and giving me an opportunity to interact with all of you today. It is a pleasure being here.

Thank you.