

23rd Foundation Day – 12th August 2021

Stepping beyond Twenty by 2020, IIIT Allahabad is progressing towards the hallmark of Quarter Century, starting with its inception in 1999. Many - Government, State, City, Persons, Agencies, Societies, Well-wishers, Administrators, Officers, Academicians, Researchers, Students have been instrumental in shaping up IIIT, Allahabad.

On 12th August 2021, the Foundation Day, with a deep sense of gratitude we salute all those founders who were responsible from the front and also who were equally responsible from behind the screen. We also recognize with great affections, all those who have steered IIIT Allahabad to where and how it stands today.

The foundation years are getting over. From the era of establishing strong foundations, now is the era of creating a strong runway for itself; so that IIIT Allahabad can fly to heights and soar into the sky. As of this day, the accomplishments of IIITA would make its founders feel worthy of their efforts. IIIT Allahabad has made a respectful entry into the QS World ranking, for the first time appearing in the 1000th rank band. This has implied that the Institute has carved a place for itself in the top 50 institutes from amongst India. It has made its presence amongst and amidst the 'giant' institutions in India. The 'Education World' has put IIITA in the top 30 institutions in India and the 'India Today' has ranked us at the Tenth position amongst all Govt. Engineering institutions in India. These are the accolades of which we should be proud, however should not be complacent, because there are still greater commitments and greater targets to be addressed.

Dear Young friends, you should be proud that you are the learners in this institute. I stress that the foundational truth that all of you, being learners, should imbibe and inculcate is to concentrate on 'Learning' not on 'Preparing'.

Unfortunately preparing oneself for assessments, preparing for campus placements, preparing for entrance/competitive examinations, preparing for examinations have become the unscientific slogans in life. Why should one prepare if one has learnt and is foundation strong? If your foundations are strong, then you would comfortably be able to extrapolate into creating applications innovatively. That is exactly what a foundation-rich, foundation strong brain that has learnt and has acquired the knowledge would do. Preparation just helps in deceiving yourself in displaying that you know. Once the event for which the preparation was done, gets over, whatever you tried to know and remember would also get drained off. Therefore learning should be your foundational strategy. The learning makes one just not only knowledgeable, but it energizes one to do also. A performer can bridge comfortably knowing with doing. Therefore on this Foundation Day, let us all pledge ourselves to learn to be foundation strong so that we can bridge knowing and doing.

Dear young colts, I love to share with you all, what I read recently in one Sunday's Magazine Section in 'The Hindu' newspaper. It was a very thought-provoking read.

One Day morning, a senior citizen was taking a stroll. A crow was hurling itself around him. He could not understand. Before he could realize it, he was attacked by the crow and while defending himself he fell down. After he fell down he could understand why the crow did attack him, as he could see that the nest of the crow had fallen down on the earth from the tree, and the crow was afraid that the person would step on that nest. The Crow was safeguarding its child, the tiny crow in the nest.

Although he was flat on the earth, and although he was aghast of the attack by the crow, his memory went back to his younger days when he and his young wife were taking all precautions to safeguard their precious young child, that is now grow up and is a big son.

The elderly man was helped by the fellow walkers, and he realized that he had bruised his hands quite badly in the accident. He went home. His big son, who was luckily present in the

home, immediately drove him in his car to the hospital. What a contrast! The son whom the father and mother were protecting some twenty-five years ago, was now holding the hands of his father with care, love and emotion. After the medical treatment, he was surprised to see that the Doctor was talking to his son and not to him, regarding medications and dressing his hand. So much the son has grown up! The son has assumed the total responsibility to take care of his father!!

Dear young prodigies, today you are with us as young learners, and we could be enacting as your guardians today. After completing your studies, you will all be grown up. You all become alumni. Like the grown-up Son, all of you are also will be willing to take care of your guardian institution with affection and dedication. I am sure that you will all provide stronger foundational care to your guardian institution as great caretakers when you all will be grown-up alumni. That is exactly what we are experiencing with the caring hands being lent by your Seniors and Super Seniors, now.

Our alumni, your seniors have been evincing keen interest to hand lead their alma mater – their proud institution. Today on this Foundation Day there is a Global level meet of your alumni. Tomorrow, as alumni you will also be joining them to provide all foundational care and support to your institution to see that the repute of the institution goes further high and high. We look forward to your support in hand-holding and hand-leading this institution. The institution should never be deprived of your love and affection.

We mutually share and care. That is the foundation for a blessed living.

Hearty compliments to all of you on Foundation Day.

Prof. P. Nagabhusan
Director
IIIT Allahabad

