

*Your Vice-Chancellor Speaks...*



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Aka

Kanchi University

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*On*

**Excellence**

**Honourable Managing Trustee, Honourable Chancellor,  
Deans, Members of the Academic Council, Heads of  
Departments, Fellow Faculty Colleagues, Staff of this  
great institution, Distinguished Guests and Invitees,  
Ladies and Gentlemen,**

Pranams to Pujyasri Sankaracharya Swamiji of the Great  
Kanchi Kamakoti Peetam. Gurubyo Namah. 2500 Years old  
Peetam and Kanchi Kshetram beckons and Blesses me today.  
On this occasion I cannot but recall my favourite song Sri  
Chakra Raja Simhasaneswari ....

In which the second Charanam goes like this...

உழுன்று திரிந்த என்னை உத்தமனாக்கி வைத்தாய்  
உயரிய பெரியோர்கள் ஒன்றிடக் கூட்டிவைத்தாய்  
நிழலெனத் தொடர்ந்த முன் ஊழ்க் கொடுமையை நீங்கச் செய்தாய்

Sung in Nadanamakriya, a janya raga of Mayamalavagowla.  
Amazing in simplicity...

Further to qualify me for what I am about to embark upon, the  
next Charanam sung in Sindhu Bhairavi says...

துன்பப் புடத்திலிட்டுத் தூயவனாக்கி வைத்தாய்  
தொடர்ந்த முன் மாயை நீக்கி பிறந்த பயனைத் தந்தாய்

Having completely exhausted (honestly speaking...), the  
ocean of knowledge I have on traditional Carnatic music,

I deem it a great honour and privilege, to be with you today. Let me congratulate all of you for contributing towards the growth of this great institution. An excellent and exciting future is in store for you. God Bless You.

I had the opportunity to deliver many an address during my career spanning four decades; many technical, some visionary, and few futuristic. But this occasion is unique! This is my First Day with you all in this institution. We are about to sculpt an Institution of Excellence; which will define the qualities of tomorrow's innovators and intellectual entrepreneurs. You are the key player; You are the key beneficiary. You are the leader. You are the follower. From being a casual visitor, I am assigned the task of being a Change maker with your help, cooperation, participation, and hard work.

Human resources development is extremely challenging in all disciplines, including engineering and technology and more so with focus on use of Information Technology in every walk of life. Medicine, Languages, and Cognitive studies add an extra dimension. As I understand SCSVMV is an embodiment of

knowledge that span several centuries. The confluence of traditional knowledge with modern science and associated scientific thinking is an atomic reactor in itself!

The range of opportunities in an institution like ours SCSVMV, is phenomenal to say the least – covers the spectrum of Engineering Disciplines, Technology Design, Automatic Manufacturing, and Financial Management – all the necessary dimensions that one would dream of as a professional, are all there in abundant measure. But the complimentary faculties of Medicine, Sanskrit, Cognition, and Understanding make the space available to any one of you for intellectual exploration infinite. These opportunities are not only for your personal benefit and growth, but also for the growth of our great nation.

Dear Colleagues, I am sure that all of you have been trained very well in the traditional art of creation and innovation hitherto. Among those present here, we will discover several heroes - as you are all in a very special position to address India's needs - purely because of the holistic personality developed in you during your stay here in SCSVMV. Once

you are closer to the Ultimate Reality in human form in Swamiji, you are also shouldering the tremendous responsibility to address problems around you.

Today you declare unto yourself that you are transformed in status – from being an ordinary faculty in an institution to someone who is a potential Nobel Laureate. You will remember and cherish SCSVMV for the rest of your lives – for it shaped your destiny for the better. This day, you will remember as long as you live. Mark today as a great day and this moment is a great moment in your life.

Along with the change of status that you attain, all of a sudden you become responsible and accountable for everything that you do – which is very different from the careless abandon that you might have been used to! You can no longer have the same cavalier attitude as you have set a higher goal for yourself. You are about to transcend from a “carefree” state to an “absolutely responsible and accountable” state. Society around you needs you and you will soon start realising it. You have to prepare yourself for the years ahead – mentally, physically, and psychologically. For, *change management* is

the most difficult form of management! From now on, you will be doing it online and in real-time! Good luck to you as you start discovering yourself.

Most of us do not realise our “potential”. Many times we do not even realise that we are capable of doing some thing significant. By God’s grace every human being is endowed with tremendous capabilities. One can realise the “potential” better, when one learns as to how one can “serve” others. The essential pre-requisite for all of you to move forward in your life, is to believe in yourself – that too strongly. It will work wonders. You have had excellent opportunity in this institute. For moving on with your lives, you need Courage and Conviction in whatever you set out to do. God be with you in all your endeavours. You can count on my support to realise your potential. As the Chief Executive (aka Vice-Chancellor), the “buck stops here”.

I would like to describe to you India – our country – that is on the threshold of major change. You should be happy that you are actively working at a time when phenomenal and unprecedented changes are taking place. India today presents

only opportunities and challenges – and not problems and difficulties. India is creating a great ambience for her children. Climate change, Nuclear energy, Connectivity, Infrastructure, Science and Technology, Social change, and a host of subjects that define the governance of the country, are under going a sea change. This 21<sup>st</sup> century is going to be a DEFINING century for India and her children. You are fortunate to be there to take part in this exciting change. This change, when based on traditional values and solid cultural foundations that emphasised **Empathy** over Sympathy, will yield returns that can be measured only in cosmic scale.

Ubiquitous Digital Infrastructure (UDI) is a great integrator. UDI helps in Annihilation of Distance and Simultaneous Observation of Events, two important aspects to enable your dreams for India tomorrow, well nay, your own future. I had the opportunity to do it across all institutions in India for past ten years! A rare opportunity in one's lifetime. I am willing to work with you to create one on SCSVMV campus. Create your future; help everyone; enjoy on seeing the smile of satisfaction in faces around you.

Let me explain how. The educational institutions and national laboratories together have close to several thousand PhDs in various subjects. Their collective wisdom is now “available” and it is “reachable” through UDI. Every Indian, irrespective of the geographical location, can benefit by accessing this vast intellectual resource. We expect that new pedagogy, new relationships, and new research ideas will emerge, as a result of seamless connectivity between institutions and individuals. This is what I meant by “threshold of change”. Very expensive laboratory equipment will be available to one and all. It is difficult for me to explain the change – it is to be felt by every one of you, as we go along.

UDI is extremely powerful and relevant, especially in the current day knowledge economy. If we focus only on “Health Referral System”, the benefits are obvious. A patient requiring critical attention and an expert opinion can be remotely seen, examined, diagnosed, and treated. What UDI provides is “Clear Visibility” of medical records that are generated at the remote end – X-Rays 2D and 3D, MRIs, CT Scans, PETs and so on. The *volume and clarity* required will demand very high bandwidth and very low latency. As time is of essence in life



saving referral situations, local handling with remote expert guidance, is the ideal combination. UDI will help India reach all Her children up to the villages.

You all must have heard of or had opportunity to dabble with Machine Learning and Data Science. Now you must prepare yourself to take a deep dive! Future will unfold “actionable insights” from ICT enabled systems. If you become a banker, instead of chasing a “defaulter”, you will have opportunity to change the life of an individual who is “struggling to avoid a default” and does not know how. In our culture, “Keeping one’s Word” is considered the most honourable thing. Nothing can be more holy than helping a “stressed” individual by appropriate interventions. Use ML and DS to design “Intervention Mechanisms”. That is the future. That will bootstrap the nation and collectively enable every one to move forward.

I would like to ask my colleagues here. What does all this mean to you? For connectivity, UDI is the backbone; but for India you are the backbone! Your enthusiastic participation

and passionate involvement in tackling problems of India in modern contexts will define India in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century.

All of you must have learnt a lot until now. Now you learn to look around and recognise the opportunities around you. Climate Change, Clean Energy, Globally Competitive Manufacturing, Analytics, and Strategic Thinking will be around you, wherever you go! Besides, sectors such as Education, Health, and Agriculture are fertile areas for contribution and innovation. For example, Non-Invasive approach in Diagnosis and Therapy is becoming the key to health research. Countrywide classrooms are waiting to be discovered through appropriate pedagogy. Soil management and soil enrichment for rapid reusability requires extensive use of technology. Only Expertise, Experience, and Exposure will help you move forward.

Dear Colleagues - Explore; Enjoy; Experience Mother India; Be a change agent for your immediate environment; **Enrich** others' lives; **Empower** them with knowledge and health; **Encourage** them to do more for society; **Enable** them through your discoveries. Be an Indian in thought, word, and

deed. Make Mother India proud by your contributions. Welfare of the Indian society should be uppermost in your minds at all times.

Your future is in your hands; This institutions future is in your hands; India's future is also in your hands. The threshold of change beckons you to participate in creating modern India and create the egalitarian society enshrined in our constitution.

ARISE. AWAKE. PERFORM.

JAIHIND.