

Prez Murmu urges universities to become globally comparable

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Bengaluru: Urging universities to strive to make themselves globally comparable, President of India Droupadi Murmu on Tuesday asked them to take steps now, so that India can become a knowledge superpower.

She was speaking at the inauguration of St. Joseph's University, Bengaluru.

St. Joseph's College (Autonomous) was declared a university under the Rashtriya Uchchatar Shiksha Abhiyan on a public-private partnership model. The state government had conferred the status of university to the 140-year-old college by enacting a law earlier this year.

Pointing out that India will have the highest youth population by 2022 and its ability to provide high quality education will determine their future, she said: "Many of our students look west for higher learning and research. We should make efforts to make our universities comparable so that our students get opportunities. Many Indian institutions have found a place in the international rankings. But their number is very small. It should be the aim of every Indian institution to become a world-class centre for learning. If we take the right steps right now, our country will emerge as a knowledge superpower."

Terming education an important tool of social transformation, Murmu said universities have to respond to the diverse aspirations of the young generation. "For this, out-of-the-box thinking is required. Such thinking will lead to a rich learning experience and creative solutions," she said, adding that the National Education Policy-2022 is a move towards this.

Pointing out that today's world needs multidimensional skills, she said working and studying in silos is not the approach to be taken. She urged the students to work for the country's development with enthusiasm.

The inaugural function was attended by chief minister Basavaraj Bommai, governor Thaawarchand Gehlot and higher education minister CN Ashwath Narayan.

Karnataka offers civic reception

TOI



WARM WELCOME: President Droupadi Murmu was felicitated in Bengaluru on Tuesday

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Bengaluru: As a mark of respect and appreciation for dedicating her time to visit Karnataka, and inaugurating the Mysuru Dasara, the Karnataka government on Tuesday hosted a civic reception for President Droupadi Murmu.

According to officials, the reception was the first which was given to a President of the nation by Karnataka. A civic reception is generally given to the President on his/her first visit to the state, as done in West Bengal and Tripura when they hosted the former President of India Ram Nath Kovind.

On Tuesday, chief minister Basavaraj Bommai and governor Thaawarchand Gehlot felicitated her, followed by five achievers from various spheres of life. They included Padmashri and Iskcon president Madhu Pandit Dasa, Padma Bhushan awardee and litterateur

Chandrashekhara Kambara, Padma Shri recipient Prakash Padukone, Padma Shri and Padma Bhushan recipient and Biocon chief Kiran Mazumdar-Shaw and Padma Shri awardee Manjamma Jogati, the first transgender woman to head Janapada Academy. The President was later hosted for an official dinner at Raj Bhavan along with an interaction with dignitaries.

Murmu hoped that Karnataka will be at the forefront of ensuring that India becomes a 5-trillion dollar economy soon.

"The state has always been an attraction to every person who comes, be it from India or abroad, with Kannadigas embracing them as their own. I had wished to make my first official trip after taking oath as the President to visit Karnataka and had the opportunity to inaugurate the famed Mysuru Dasara," she said.