



Good morning, respected Shri Ramesh Agrawal saheb and my dear faculty, staff and students.

I wish you all a very happy and happening Independence Day.

Today, the country celebrates the **72nd Independence Day**. During these 72 years the nation has shown remarkable resilience and has faced many major challenges with a bold face.

There have been many ups and downs in this journey; the partition, wars with neighbours, fight against terrorism, communalism etc were problems which could not break the democracy and sovereignty of this great country. The people stood together and fought against all these evils, bravely, with a united spirit. There is a hidden strength in India which has deep roots in our customs, culture, traditions, the social fabric and which comes from an old civilization which is thousands of years old. Indian philosophy, Vedic Sciences, Astronomy, Yoga & meditation etc are being extensively followed by the whole world. India has already proved its supremacy in the field of Information Technology and is steadily striving to become a global leader in space & nuclear research, medical science and other fields too.

It has been rightly said that **“Success is the sum of small efforts, repeated day-in and day-out”**

History tells us that India got independence as a result of a mass movement of ordinary people who came together and refused to live under A FOREIGN

RULE. People left their homes, their jobs, careers, even their families, for a bigger goal, to realize a seemingly impossible and distant dream called “freedom”. The struggle that followed with the mighty British regime, took many lives. What does the freedom struggle teach us?

The supreme sacrifice of the freedom fighters and martyrs teaches us to “**GIVE something to the society**”; to put the nation above ourselves. In the present world, everyone has sky high expectations from others; from the organizations, institutions, governments or people around them, and the blame game is always on. No one, even for a moment, thinks about what ‘they’ are giving to others.

Do we ever think what impressions we are leaving behind on this city, this institute, this country and this beautiful planet? Don’t you agree with me that most of us, most of the time, are only thinking about themselves and what they can get from people or the system around them. But then, what is or who is the system? Aren’t we the ones who create, build and constitute the system? If each one of us invests a little energy and effort into improving things around ourselves, mind you, a visible difference will soon be experienced. With a determination, we can fight most social and systemic evils. If only we stop blaming others and instead take just one initiative, try to contribute in some manner where we can, within our jurisdiction; it will make a lot of difference.

Let's all pledge to make the world around us a beautiful place!!! A place where the next generations can thrive, where our culture can survive, our institutions can flourish, where our values prevail and where the environment is conducive for sustainable growth and development

In the end I want to share with you all the **very famous lines from the spectacular** collection of poems "**Geetanjali**"; the Nobel prize winning creation by **Gurudev Rabindranath Tagore**

Where the mind is without fear

And, the head is held high;

Where knowledge is free;

*Where the world has not been broken up into fragments,
by narrow domestic walls;*

Where words come out from the depth of truth;

Where tireless striving stretches its arms towards perfection;

*Where the clear stream of reason
has not lost its way,*

into the dreary desert sand of dead habit;

*Where the mind is lead forward by thee
into ever-widening thought and action-*

***Into that heaven of freedom, my Father,
let my country awake.***

Jai Hind, Jai Bharat