

WELCOME SPEECH

M. MUQIM
Director, ACE

Respected **Prof. M.M. Ansari, Member University Grants Commission, Dr. Manzoor Ahmad, the Vice-Chancellor of Subharti University of Meerut and Prof. Anwar Jahan Zuberi, Former Vice-Chancellor of University of Calicut, Prof. Mohammad Muzammil the Vice-Chancellor of Dr. B.R.Ambedkar University of Agra** and ladies and gentlemen.

I am really privileged to have the pleasant task of welcoming the distinguished gathering for the three days **National Seminar on Higher Education Among Minorities of India: Vision and Policy Perspectives**. I am grateful to guests who graciously and readily accepted our invitation. We are eagerly looking forward to listen our guest speakers.

In the last decade there is a tremendous increase in number of institutions and enrolment in higher education yet the participation of minorities is still very low. The average GER (Gross Enrolment Ratio) in higher education in India is 18% which is lower than the GER of developing countries and farthest lower than the developed nations (58%). The average GER of minorities in India is approximately 7%. The target GER is 25% during the 12th Five Year Plan. This is possible only through large scale expansion by way of opening new institutions and enhancing the intake capacity of the existing institutions to makeup the disparities among all sections of society. Nevertheless, Muslims need extra push to accelerate their participation in higher education.

The focus of the seminar is to acquire better understanding of current status of minorities in Higher Education in different areas of the country, alongwith the reasons / causes of their present state of affairs. The third aspects of the seminar be would be remedial. What should be done at individual societal and at the government level. There would be several presentation regarding the governments planning and interventions for improving Higher Education Among Minorities. The seminar may also pay attention, why several government scheme are not producing desired result. The Prime Minister's 15 points programme too could not make a dent as far as higher education concerned for Muslim Minority. On this occasion you might be interested to know something about this college.

The Aligarh College of Education, Aligarh College of Engineering & Management & Indiana Play School established by Crescent Charitable Trust, Aligarh, an NGO registered in 1988 under 12(A), 80(G) of Income Tax Act. and also registered under FCRA, Ministry of Home Affairs. The Trust is working in the field of education, medical assistance, marriages of poor, sponsorship of orphans etc. An approximate number of beneficiaries may be in lacs.

The Aligarh College of Education is offering B.A., B.Com. & B.Ed. courses. It is Self-financed, Co-educational, Minority Institution got permanent affiliation with Dr.B.R. Ambedkar University, Agra and accredited by NAAC B++. The UGC registered the college under 2(f) & 12(B) of UGC Act, 1956. The mission of the college is to produce globally competent teacher, academic leaders and to achieve pursuit of excellence in area of teacher education. As far as the result of the college is concerned it is around 100% for the last several years.

The Student support centre works for solving academic and non-academic problems and holds workshop and provide information to help students for developing a variety of skills. This centre last year organized several workshops such as 'how to read a book' and 'how to write a paper', 'how to conduct research', 'how to use IT in Education', 'RTI Act' and 'RTE'.

The college actively involved in all types of academic activities such as Workshop, Seminar, Symposium, GD, PPT, Academic Visit, Guest Lecture, Collaboration, Book Fair Visit, Remedial Classes, Guidance & Counseling, Placement, Action Research etc. The students of the college are involved in social activities such as health awareness, community services, orphan house visit, Aids, Smoking, Dowry, Corruption, Women's Security and Empowerment, Sanitary, Health, Environment, Plantation etc. Every year college invites the instructor Mr. Y.K. Saxena from U.P. Government for training of students under Scout and Guide Camps.

Student Teachers Ratio: *Student Teachers Ratio* – 14 is to 1, Male Female Ratio – 40:60, Urban Rural Ratio – 65:35, Scheduled Caste Ratio – 22: 78, Physical Challenged Ratio – 2:98, Ratio of Teaching and Non-teaching – 8:7.

Linkage & Collaboration (MOU):

- Prof. George Mclean from Newyork, USA, Prof. Christopher Queen, Harvard University, USA, Dr. Rahul Deepanker from USA, Prof. Gopal Chandra Khan from Bardwan University, West Bengal, Prof. D.N. Tiwari, Chairman, Department of Philosophy, Banaras Hindu University, Varanasi, Dr. Jamshed Akhtar from Faizabad, Dr. Mohsin Raza, Worlds of Aligs, Prof. CPS Chauhan, Chairman, Department of Education, AMU, Aligarh, Prof. Shah Wasim, Prof. Manzoor Ahmad, Vice-Chancellor, Subharti University, Meerut, Prof. Shamim Ahmad, Ex-Vice-Chancellor, AMU, Aligarh, Prof. Anwar Jahan Zuberi, Ex-Vice-Chancellor, Calicut, Prof. Sheeri Moosvi, Ex-Chairman, Department of History, AMU, Aligarh, Prof. Zeba Hasan, Chairperson, Department of English, AMU, Aligarh, Prof. Hameed Nasim Rafiabadi, University of Kashmir, Srinagar, Prof. Hamida Ahmad, Ex-Member, UGC, Dr. Hamvir Singh, Higher Secondary, Allahabad, Dr. Rakshpal Singh, D.S.College, Aligarh, Prof. Zakia Siddiqui, Ex-Principal, Women's College, AMU, Aligarh and many others visited.

- The college provides fee waiver and scholarships to several eligible students.
- The college seeks feedback of the students, alumni and parent's and tries to improve the quality of teaching and quality of infrastructural in the light of their feedback.
- The students representation is one of the important policy of our college, for this reason students representation is given in several college committees.
- ACE Alumni Association is also actively holding annual function
- The quality of any educational institution depends upon quality of research. A research is nothing but the solution of problem the society at large facing it. The research committee of ACE encouraged our teachers to apply for research project from UGC. The teacher of the college decided to approach UGC under their respective topics of research. So far, **31** research papers in national and international journals were published by our faculty. A publisher has accepted the Ph.D. dissertation for publication.
- As a matter of policy students are encourage to take various research projects on different themes under the supervision of college faculty.
- Academic flexibility entails freedom to learn whatever whenever and wherever to access information and communicate with other, to make one's own destiny by pursuing one's knowledge interests. This kind of flexibility possible when our college becomes autonomous.

In order to improve the multi-skilled development, the college accelerates the cognitive abilities of students such as reasoning, comprehension, memory, computation, imagination and decision making that further improve their subject understanding. The college tries to inculcate humanitarian values such as honesty, respect, love, equality, human rights, fairness, hardwork, transparency and positive attitude towards life. The college also promotes secular values democratic outlook.

The seminar is to bring together academicians and experts from different parts of the country to exchange knowledge, ideas and findings to provide in-depth analysis necessary for mapping a program for advancement of minorities in higher education.

I once again welcome all the speakers and delegates who are arriving from Hyderabad, Calcutta, Kerala, Bihar, Kashmir, UP, Rajasthan and Delhi.

Thank you very much for listening my welcome remarks.