

Good Morning to You All

We are here today to celebrate the joyous occasion of Bharata Ratna Dr. B R Ambedkar's 123rd Birthday and I respectfully salute him and pay our tributes to him for his service to the nation and society. On this occasion, I am honored to have with me on dias Dr. G Ramakrishna, Editor Hosathu Kannada Magazine, our chief guest for this occasion. Let me welcome him for this function.

The importance and value we attach to this event is evidenced by the fact that we have gathered here to celebrate Dr.Ambedkars jayanthi at the most opportune time. The country in large and ISRO in particular is rejoicing the successful launch of six Satellites in the calendar year 2013, including MARS orbiter mission and launch of GSLV-D5 vehicle carrying GSAT-14 satellite. I must say here that the SC/ST community has been an integral part of all these successful satellites realization and launch activities. I am proud of them all.

On this occasion it is most appropriate for me to dwell upon some of the important contributions of Dr. Ambedkar to our nation and society at large. Dr Ambedkar's legacy as a socio-political reformer had a deep effect on modern India. In post – independence India, his socio-political thought has gained respect across the political spectrum and his initiatives have influenced various spheres of life and transformed the way India looks at

socio-economic policies, education and affirmatives action through socio-economic and legal incentives.

Dr Ambedkar, as Chairman of the Indian Constitution Drafting Committee provided constitutional guarantees and protection for a wide range of civil liberties for individual citizen. The Indian Constitution drafted by Dr. Ambedkar is often called the “first and foremost social document, the provisions of which are directly arrived at furthering the aim of social revolution or attempt to foster this revolution by establishing conditions necessary for its achievement.”

Dr. Ambedkar was an economist by training and up to 1921 he was a professional economist. He emphasized on equal rights to women for economic development and was responsible for laying the foundation for industrial relations in free India. His advocacy of birth control has been adopted by the Indian Government as a national policy.

I very strongly believe he was not only the supporter of a community; he was a father figure promoting brotherhood among all. He never advocated any type of hatred among the citizens. Actually he advocated harmony and equality for everyone. He was primarily responsible for developing a progressive outlook not only among the dalits, but also a large number of members from the highly social section with

weak economic background. I am happy that all of us at ISAC are promoting these great principles of Dr. Ambedkar.

In this large organization there are always issues which will be raised but they will all be taken as positive feedback for improvement of organization at large and employees in particular. **We at ISAC resolve issues if any, only through matured dialogue among all concerned including community leaders. I request this approach be continued as it is beneficial for all and I have no hesitation in stating that there are no issues of community pending for resolution as on date. I consider this is to be a very positive sign.**

In ISAC we recognize contribution of every individual irrespective of their caste, creed, origin, gender, language, position etc. We believe only in carrying out the job as required by the organization, specifically in realization of world class satellites. About 16% of our work force constitute SC/ST workforce and substantial of them are class one officers. They have shown extremely high commitment and dedication to work and have exhibited exemplary self sufficiency in all aspects. However, as an abundant precaution and requirement to protect the interest of SC/ST community we are ensuring that welfare measures are put in place, issues if any are addressed, they are well represented in every review and recruitment committee.

As I said earlier all the employees are one family namely ISAC. All the employees have been working shoulder to shoulder with their other brethrens and contributing meaningfully to all ISRO projects / programmes without any strings attached. Cordial relationships with the management and the association and conducive working environment have added flavor to **welfare measures of all** and also in delivering world class Satellite. I am thankful for this support from the community representatives. **I am sure that the same support will continue in time to come.** I assure you we will continue our support to SC/ST community.

Wish you all the very best. Thank you, one and all