

**SKILLS2010**  
**International Working Conference**  
on  
**Life skills and Livelihood skills: Challenges for Institutional Development**  
**18 – 20 December 2010**  
**National Academy of Construction, Hyderabad, India**

**INAUGURAL SESSION**

**Inauguration**

10 – 11 AM, Thursday, 16 December 2010

**Welcome to the Conference by Ravindra Vikram,  - REEDS, Chairman**



The proceedings, after the lighting of lamp by the dignitaries symbolizing the formal inauguration, started with the welcome address by Ravindra Vikram, Chairman of REEDS. Vikram welcomed all the participants to the SKILLS2010 International Working Conference in the Conference Hall at the National Academy of Construction, Hyderabad, India.

In his welcome address, he had reflected the need on connecting technology and skills in building the rural livelihoods towards an inclusive development, the mission REEDS endeavors and expect the conference would debate on how the challenges of skills and livelihood should be met.



**Overview of the Conference by R Sadananda, Member of Conference Steering Committee**



R Sadananda, Professional Visiting Fellow at School of Computer Science and Engineering, University of New South Wales, Australia and Member of Conference Steering Committee gave an overview of the Conference. Sadananda outlined the need to address the issue, of livelihoods and relationship with life skills that are profound and of great consequences, on international level in a sustained manner where in the world which is progressing very well with advances in many fields but had left out large populations without basic necessities of life. 'To look at holistically the issue of livelihood and the relationship with life skills, there is a need to discuss, explore and exploit the content by working together and form a community to address the issue in a sustained manner and hence the inclusive title to the conference', Sadananda said.

**Address by Dr. Rosaiah, Hon'ble former Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh**



Dr K Rosaiah, the Hon former Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh addressed the conference and outlined the importance of addressing skill development in an inclusive framework and the skilled manpower development in Andhra Pradesh. He highlighted the need to look at the needed changing mindset of people at all levels including policy makers. He desired that the conference deliberations should suggest ways to move forward and open opportunities in a collaborative manner.

### Address by Kay Ganley, ACPET National Chair



In her address to the conference, Kay Ganley, ACPET National Chair and Director, Australian Registered Training Organization CHARLTON BROWN reflected on the longtime friendship between Australia and India and that the ACPET delegation presence at the conference to renew the same. She congratulated REEDS for organizing a great conference and extended thanks for engaging ACPET and indicated that they would look forward for continuing their engagement and increasing opportunities for both the countries in this area.

### Inaugural Address by His Excellency Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam, former President of India



Former President of India, Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam at the outset expressed his happiness to participate in this conference that addresses a wide range of skill development aspects and the issue of interdependency of skills in a global challenge and opportunity. He spoke at length on 'Human empowerment through knowledge and skills' in his inspirational inaugural address. He suggested that the workshop should lead to actions in about three months on critical areas of live skills development. He discussed few important aspects of skills development combined with his experiences in length that include grass root Innovations, enterprise development, enterprise based empowerment. In conclusion, Dr. Kalam had shared his thought about creation of Global Human Resource Cadre to bridge the gap between availability and requirement of knowledge personal in the globalized economy.

Some important quotes by Dr.Kalam:

- 'The problem has to be tackled at macro and micro levels'.
- 'To understand the problems in perspective the targeted beneficiaries are important'.
- 'It is essential to market the needs for the live skills programme'.
- 'One important aspect is preparation of contents for teaching in regional languages'.
- 'Natural solution, drawn from the environment of work spots, is important in many ways, particularly, in the large rural background of our country'.
- 'Can the experts assembled in this conference evolve such an action plan where knowledge exchange can occur across regions and borders?'
- 'We need to create job generators who could generate multiple employment opportunities for the deprived sections'.
- 'Entrepreneurship incubation institutions need to be developed all over India and the developing world'.
- 'Deploying the youth of the region in mapping the knowledge and experience will provide us a rich resource of existing knowledge'.

For Dr. APJ Kalam's full text of speech visit [www.abdulkalam.com](http://www.abdulkalam.com)

### **Felicitation of Hon'ble G. Venkat Swamy, Hon'ble former Union Minister**



On the occasion, Shri G. Venkatswamy, Hon'ble former Union Cabinet Minister, Government of India, was felicitated for his inspiring leadership of the underprivileged of the society, participation in freedom struggle, labour reforms, contribution to the education of the weaker and downtrodden sections and multitude of activities as a labour leader at the national and international level, Parliamentarian and Union Minister.



Dr. SK Hajela, Conference Steering Committee Member had read out the citation felicitating Shri Venkatswamy. The citation and the gold medallion was presented by Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam, Vinod Gaddam, member of the conference committee and elder son of Shri Venkatswamy, had given the acceptance speech on his father's behalf. Later, Venkatswamy also thankfully acknowledged the felicitation and shared his contributions in the education to the underprivileged and labor reforms.



### **Vote of Thanks by Ravi K Reddy, Member of REEDS and SKILLS2010 Steering Committee**

Ravindra Vikram and Ravi K Reddy presented Mementos of appreciation to the dignitaries. Thereafter, Ravi K Reddy, Member of REEDS and Conference Steering Committee Member had extended Vote of Thanks to all the participants.

