

## **“Dream, Discover and Do” - Kailash Satyarthi @ Vignan University**

“**Dream** big, **Discover** your path, inner power and outside opportunities and lastly **Do**” – Nobel laureate Kailash Satyarthi quoted in a seminar held at Vignan University, Guntur. Kailash Satyarthi, Nobel Prize for Peace winner(2014) for “Struggle against the suppression of children and young people and for the right of all children to education”, visited Vignan University to address the students and motivate the younger generations towards the eradication of child labour, child abuse, child and women trafficking and forced slavery.

Varsity Chairman Dr. Lavu Rathaiah introduced Kailash Satyarthi to the students of the varsity and said that he started the Vignan group of institutions for providing higher education to the students who are quitting the studies after 10<sup>th</sup> and Intermediate 40 years ago and he felt very privileged with Satyarthi’s presence in the Vignan University. Varsity chairman also mentioned that an amount of rupees 5 Lakhs to the Kailash Satyarthi Children’s Foundation is donated as a token of love towards deprived children.

Varsity Vice Chairman Lavu Sri Krishnadevarayulu warmly welcomed the Nobel laureate and said that Vignan University has made a Memorandum of Understanding with Kailash Satyarthi Children’s Foundation to set-up the Kailash Satyarthi Centre for Child Rights in the university. He mentioned that the newly formulated “Disha” is a powerful law implemented by the state government for the safety and security of women. He also urged the students to develop projects which can help the implementation of “Disha” by utilizing the funds granted by the central government.

On this occasion, Kailash Satyarthi expressed that he felt nostalgic when he entered into the campus as he was also an electrical engineering student and also stated that he saw very happy and confident faces of budding engineers and managers. “You are not only the future engineers, you all are shining stars who will fulfil the aspirations, dreams and hopes of your parents and country and you all are going to make India Proud”, said while addressing the students. He also urged students to follow the Three Ds Mantra to achieve heights in future and the three Ds are Dream, Discover and Do, “Dream big and don’t limit your dreams and to achieve your dreams do not sit idle, Discover your path, inner power and outside opportunities which pave path to your dreams and finally Do what you have dreamt of,” quoted Mr. Satyarthi.

He also shared his experiences he faced while he took the initiative for serving the children. “From my childhood I refused to accept that the children belonging to certain sections of society are born to work for others at the cost of their childhood, freedom and education, I saw tears and hunger to study in the eyes of a child while I was joining the school on my first day, he was looking towards my shoes to polish them for feeding his stomach, this incident shook me and rooted deeply inside my mind and heart, even after I left my career to start the ‘Bachpan Bachao Andolan’ many of my friends made fun of me, but today I’m standing in front of you by saving thousands of children from forced slavery, trafficking, etc. I dreamt, I discovered the path, I did and I’ll be doing more.” He suggested students to have compassion not sympathy or empathy and to feel the difficulties of others as our own problems. Mr. Satyarthi also emphasised the students to feel that deprived children as their own brothers and sisters and connect to them emotionally and psychologically and also provide them with possible help and assistance in improving their vulnerabilities.

Later on the staff of university felicitated Mr. Satyarthi. University Chairman Dr. Lavu Rathaiah, Vice Chairman Lavu Krishnadevaraylu, Chancellor Dr. K. Ram Murthy Naidu, Vice Chancellor Dr. M.Y.S. Prasad, Registrar M.S. Raghunathan, Rector K. Satya Prasad, Deans, HoDs, Staff, Researc Scholars and Students of all departments attended this event.