

## FOUNDER'S DAY – 2020

The 93<sup>rd</sup> Birth Anniversary of Dr. M V Jayaraman, our Founder's Day, was celebrated on May 17<sup>th</sup> 2020. This year was a little different as we celebrated Founder's Day in the virtual mode, due to the pandemic Covid-19, and the entire event was live streamed on YouTube and Facebook.

The event began on a solemn note, with the lamp lighting ceremony by Sri. M J Balachandar (Chairman, MVJ College of Engineering), Dr. P Mahabaleshwarappa (Principal, MVJ College of Engineering), Prof. Vaman B Gudi (Registrar and Controller of Examinations), along with Dr. Dayanand (Principal, MVJ PU College), to pay reverence to Goddess Sarawathi. Mr. Aditya and Mr. Tharun, students of MVJCE, then invoked the blessings of God, with a soulful Invocation Song.

Dr. P Mahabaleshwarappa, Principal, MVJ College of Engineering, delivered the Welcome Address and greeted all our parents and students who were present and also those unable to be physically present at this magnificent event due to the unfortunate Covid-19 pandemic.

Dr. P Mahabaleshwarappa spoke, with great pride, about the achievements and highlights for the academic year 2019-2020. He announced that our Institute which had been affiliated to VTU for many years, has been awarded Autonomous status from the academic year 2019-2020. He also notified the starting of two new Engineering courses - Artificial Intelligence & Machine Learning and Data Science - from the academic year 2020-2021, with the approval of AICTE. His words that MVJCE holds 6<sup>th</sup> position in PG and UG University rankings, was music to the ears of the proud faculty and students.

The prestigious Dr. M V Jayaraman Memorial Gold Medal is awarded to a student who has scored the highest marks throughout his/her Engineering course, and this year, it was awarded to Chithra Kumari T S from M.Tech. Dr. Mahabaleshwarappa also took this opportunity to appreciate our students who have been pathbreakers, executing their dream projects like Smart Helmet, Bone Conduction Based Hearing Aid etc. – innovations that have gained popularity all over the state. Apart from this, MVJCE students who have emerged winners at various technical fests that were held in various parts of our country were given special mention.

This address by Dr. Mahabaleshwarappa was followed by a video presentation on Dr. M V Jayaraman, our Founder. This video was a tribute to the great man, reminiscing the glorious past, as it traversed the journey of this multi-faceted personality. The presentation enlightened the audience on how his compassion and generosity knew no bounds, and how his commitment and sincerity helped him overcome many challenges.

Next, we had a congratulatory message from Dr. C N Ashwath Narayan, Hon. Deputy Chief Minister, Government of Karnataka. Dr. Ashwath Narayan stressed on how the vision of founding educational institutions empowers every society, thereby empowering our entire country. He highlighted the importance of education, and mused on how knowledge transforms an individual to do wonders in his life, which in turn makes a huge difference in society.

Following this message, Dr. B N Suresh, Chancellor, IIST - Trivandrum, and Chairman of Governing Council - MVJCE, applauded Dr. MVJ's vision, foresightedness, empathy and hard work which have made the MVJ Group of Institutions a force to reckon with, in the whole of Karnataka. He also pointed out that it was indeed a great achievement to be recognized as an Autonomous Institute. He spoke about the various programs initiated by the Institute that focus on Research activities, Paper Publications and Journals. He commended the gesture of awarding students and faculty members for their contributions and achievements in all domains like academics, sports and extracurricular activities.

The next program on the agenda was the Award Distribution ceremony, for all VTU Rank holders, Student Toppers of MVJCE for the academic year 2019-2020, Students with 100% marks in VTU examination, Faculty members who were able to produce 100% results in their respective subjects, Faculty members who were able to secure Funded Projects and publish Papers in reputed national and international journals.

Apart from this, Student toppers of MVJ Polytechnic were also given awards, along with the faculty members who were able to produce 100% results in their respective subjects in MVJ Polytechnic College.

The program concluded with a Vote of Thanks by Principal, MVJ College of Engineering, who congratulated all the winners, and thanked the students and faculty members who made this event a distinctive one. We do hope that next year we will meet in better circumstances, and celebrate our Founder's Day with the usual verve and energy.