

# INAUGURAL ADDRESS

By **National Professor Shri Satyen Bose**

Friends,

I am happy that I have been given great importance to speak on this inaugural ceremony. The developments which are progressing remain more in my mind. India is a big country full of natural resources and though we have got certain wants, we have been doing numerous other things of public utilities here in India. We have our bridges and roads for about 400 years but we have not been looking after natural resources and I am sure that, in your symposium, you will be discussing all the possibilities for collection of materials that are already existing in our country. In India, we feel that materials exist and also men are ready to undertake devotedly the task of building up new structures which will further our aims and aspirations.

In this conference, I hope all the personnel will intimate the various problems that face us—the undertakings that will have to be set up. They have to be boosted with enthusiasm, with financial help etc., in order that they may take hard recourse and produce larger things that will be required.

The large scale of production can really be achieved only by judicious and timely arrangement of different strata in different stages. Collective well driven effort can solve

the various integrated problems that stare us in the face when we think about our beloved city and its present low stage—the places which need basic development.

I hope that the present arrangement of collecting octroi will not only simply step up the price of the things but at the same time this money will be utilised in producing and in helping different things so that people will feel that this is now the right step towards solving the great unemployment problem that spread over Bengal. We had been fairly well enthusiastic about the education—about technical education—about scientific education and so on. We remember, in those days—the days of Swadeshi Movement people believed that we would be able to solve our problem, build our men, build bridges, roads, etc., after having our independence. As a matter of fact we are still far from being self-sufficient. We feel that sufficient amount of know-how already exists in our country and given proper and sufficient guidance our men can be utilised wisely to set up even now a certain foundation upon which further progress can be made. I hope this conference of Engineering Materials will be a special one in that direction. In all the subsequent meetings in your symposium, in your speeches and in sub-

sequent public and private discussions, you will be able to create enthusiasm in our country, you will be able to create to our unemployed and underemployed men great hopes and see that these hopes are not frustrated. At the same time collect a sort of suitable plan in which there will be co-operation,—I mean, co-operation of both Centre and the State and also the engineers. Thank

you gentlemen, I hope this will be remembered in all the subsequent discussions.

It has been now my very proud privilege to announce, in absentia, the award of KARMAVIROTTAMA to Dr. A. N. Khosla, Sir Biren Mookerjee and Dr. M. S. Thacker which are going to be sent to their residence. Thank you.

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## WELCOME ADDRESS

By **Shri A. K. Ghose,**

*Adviser to the Governor of West Bengal*

On my own behalf and on behalf of the Seminar Committee and the Association of Engineers, I have great pleasure in extending very heartfelt welcome to the distinguished delegates and the guests to the Seminar. At the outset, I cannot but express my happy feeling to see so many familiar faces, who are stalwarts in different field of activities, who have contributed very much to the cause of Engineering and Development, are present here this morning and their valuable presentation in this Seminar will be very helpful. I hope, the beginning would be a success and the success would continue from hour to hour.

Friends, you are aware, this Seminar has been called on the cogent background of

the massive development programme being undertaken for Calcutta and Metropolitan Area. If I may say so, our beloved city of Calcutta in many respects or in many aspects is unique in quality which has a tradition of its own and I have no hesitation to say that it has its own. This I say when I met many foreigners who found so. It is for this, many have been drawn over here, every year. In the past, efforts were made for development of the city of Calcutta and Metropolitan Area but for variety of reasons it has not been possible to take integrated effort. We have the same problem, the problem of balance of foreign exchange, grants, aids etc and this is a basic task that is set before us. This is the challenging condition against which the