



Mr. Pranab Mukherjee
Hon'ble President of India
Chief Guest-2013

I am glad that I have participated in this award giving ceremony. When I went through the short and brief description of the work of these very distinguished award winners, I regained my confidence and faith in humanity.

Also if one looks at the galaxy of past recipients of the Jamnalal Bajaj Awards, one can see that the awardees have been meticulously selected for recognizing the selfless contributions made by them towards society building. I would like to express my deep appreciation to the awardees for their selfless service.

I would not just congratulate them, but would like to express my deep appreciation for their work. At the same time, I appreciate the recognition given by Jamnalal Bajaj Foundation in choosing these selfless contributors to the development of the society. I am sure the award winners will provide us the leadership for selfless sacrifice for the cause of humanity.

Till there are people like these who are working silently, selflessly for the advancement of society, we will continue to have that faith.

If one goes through the life of Jamnalal Bajaj one would recognize the tremendous influence that Gandhiji had on him, and also that which he had on Gandhiji.

Shri Jamanlal inspired his whole family to imbibe the Gandhian way of life. Gandhiji adopted Jamnalal Bajaj as his "fifth son" and it was Jamnalal Bajaj who persuaded Gandhiji to come and settle in Wardha.

We should not forget the values advocated by Gandhiji such as love for motherland, respect for women, etc.

I am concerned over the frequent disruptions in legislatures and law-makers resorting to such acts are causing great disservice to people.

After obtaining people's mandate, we start misbehaving. If we do not discharge our minimum responsibility and try to gag others by resorting to disruption, I do feel we are causing a great deal of disservice to the people.

Nobody compels me to seek votes. We seek votes. We ask them give me votes, I would like to serve you and after obtaining that I do not do my work, I do not allow others to do their work, that is simply not acceptable.

My teachers had taught me that democracy has three essential Ds such as debate, dissension and decision. We were never told that there is a fourth D – disruption.

The job of a law maker is never offered to anybody but sought for. The country can never forget the core values of its 5000-year-old civilisation which is based on tolerance, pluralism, discipline, patriotism. We must imbibe these values in our deeds.

