

**PRESS INFORMATION BUREAU  
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA**

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**PM INTERACTS WITH SCHOOL CHILDREN ON THE EVE OF TEACHERS' DAY  
PM RELEASES COMMEMORATIVE COIN ON DR. SARVEPALLI RADHAKRISHNAN,  
AND LAUNCHES KALA UTSAV WEBSITE  
UNION HRD MINISTER SMT SMRITI IRANI EXHORTS THE STUDENTS TO DREAM  
BIG AND BE RESOLVED TO MAKE THEIR DREAMS A REALITY**

**New Delhi, September 04<sup>th</sup>, 2015**

The Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi, today interacted with school children from across the country, on the eve of Teachers' Day. In an event anchored entirely by school children themselves, the Prime Minister released commemorative coins of denomination Rs. 125, and Rs. 10, to mark the birth anniversary of India's second President, Dr. Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan. The Prime Minister also launched the website for Kala Utsav, an initiative of Ministry of Human Resource Development to promote arts in education by nurturing and showcasing the artistic talent of school students at the secondary stage in the country.

In his opening remarks on the occasion, the Prime Minister said that there is a special significance of interacting with school children on the eve of Teachers' Day. He said a teacher is known by the accomplishments of his students. He said that while a mother gives birth, it is the teacher who actually provides life.

The Prime Minister recalled former President Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam, and said Dr. Kalam wanted to be remembered as a teacher. He said that Dr. Kalam had a passion for teaching, and he was interacting with students even upto the final moments of his life.

The Prime Minister further said that India had great teachers even today, who were helping to create engineers, doctors and scientists that were making a mark globally. He said the aim of teachers should be to avoid creating robots, but to nurture an entire generation.

During the interaction the students posed questions on wide range of matters including Swachh Bharat Abhiyan, Digital India Initiative, Education, Leadership, Public speaking, International Yoga Day. During the interaction the Prime Minister also asked some questions related to students' interests and future planning. When asked how somebody can do something for the nation, the Prime minister highlighted the importance of even small acts towards nation building in day to day life by crores of people.

The Union Minister for Human Resource Development Smt. Smriti Irani while welcoming the Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi, spoke about the Government achievement of completing hundred per cent target under the Swachh Vidyalaya Abhiyan of constructing separate toilets for boys and girls in schools. The announcement to this effect was made by the Prime Minister last year on Independence Day and he had set the time limit for achieving this target within one year. She added that it was only because of strong resolve and determination on the part of the Government that this dream of meeting the target could come true and become a reality. Similarly she said that even the students should be determined and resolved to accomplish their own dreams in life.

Union Ministers of State Shri Upendra Kushwaha, Shri Ram Shankar Katheria, and Shri Jayant Sinha were also present on the occasion.

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**GG/RT/DS/RK/TEACHERS DAY**