

India Tourism Sydney and Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan Australia in association with Consul General of India, Sydney host reception for Kalinga Rugby Team (under 14) from Orissa (India) at the India Tourism Office, Sydney.

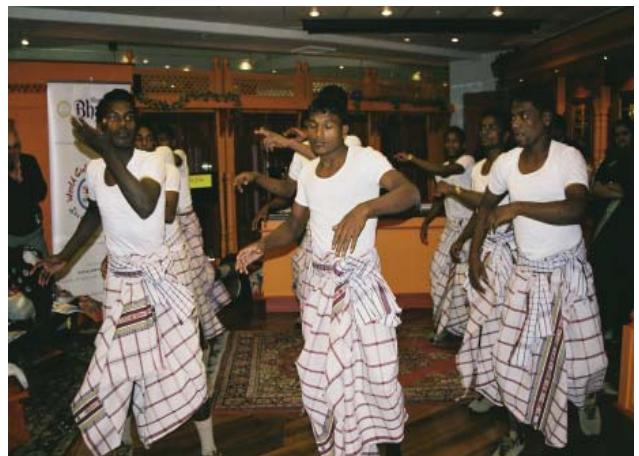
On 16 August 2008, India Tourism Sydney and Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan Australia jointly hosted a "Welcome Lunch" for the Kalinga Rugby Team (under 14) from Orissa (India) at the India Tourism Office, Sydney. The Welcome Lunch started with a Welcome Speech from Hon.Sujan Chinoy, Consul General of India, Sydney. He said that, this was a proud moment for India as the rugby team belonged to a tribal community in Orissa and their achievement shows the amount of hard work the young boys have put to come all the way to prove themselves. He also wished them success in all their endeavors. The Kalinga Institute of Social Sciences' Under-14 Rugby Team from Orissa won their first fixture in Darwin on 12 August against the best Under-14 team in the Northern



Territory. On 14th August the Indian boys won their match against the Under-14 team of the Lloyd McDermott Foundation at Granville Park in Sydney by a wide margin. On (15 August), the team played against NSW Rugby Union and Manly Rugby Academy. The team also won the games in Adelaide and Melbourne. The Coach of the Rugby Team was presented with 2 Rugby balls autographed by Mr.Sujan Chinoy, Mr. Gambhir Watts and other delegates. Mr. Gambhir Watts handed over trophies to the boys for their achievement. After the "Grand Welcome Lunch", the boys performed an enthralling traditional tribal dance of Orissa to entertain the delegates and guests

Kalinga Institute of Social Sciences:

The Kalinga Institute of Social Sciences (KISS) offers unique opportunity for formal and vocational education to thousands of neglected and deprived tribal children from inaccessible remote corners of the state. As a model tribal institution in the country, it offers technical and higher education facilities from KG to PG. It aims at their total development with free food, accommodation and education. The residential school is replete with total self-development of a tribal child so that's/he can return to her/his roots and eke out a descent living for herself/himself and entire family. The school advocates on tribal development by creating an appropriate forum for debates and promoting the awareness on right



to education among the tribal communities. It plans to network with similar institutions working on tribal children and share the information that is vital in this age for the comprehensive development of the child. Creating a conducive environment has always been an important focus area of KISS education and livelihood programme. KIIT constantly endeavours to preserve tribal cultural heritage whenever possible and strives to enrich the environment.

KISS is a team of dedicated social workers with able guidance of Dr. Samanta were entrusted with the responsibility of convincing the tribal parents about the advantages of education. Finally on 1st April 1993 the dream turned into a reality when 100 tribal children from different tribal pockets of the state enrolled in the school. This school is known as 'Kalinga Institute of Social Sciences' and it is a sister concern of KIIT and runs under the Kalinga Relief and Charitable Trust. Since, its inception, the emphasis of the school has been to provide a natural ambience for educating the tribal children. The school has been developed in a way similar to that of their own habitations to make them comfortable in the new environment and imbibe them



with self confidence and sense of true dedication for the realization of larger goals in life. KISS is a school with distinct unique features. The school provides free and good quality education and accommodation to tribal children of Orissa. Looking at the demand of the people the student strength has been increased in the current year to 5000 from 3000 in the last year. It covers 55 tribal groups from the 30 districts of Orissa which includes 13 primitive tribal groups. This residential campus has natural leisurely ambience with a humane touch of affection and care for the little inmates. The concept of a 'home away from home' finds true expression in this campus. Tribal culture, heritage and tradition have always been given precedence over the academic curriculum.



Mission & Vision

- To bring a paradigm shift from mere schooling to innovative learning for the poor tribal children from different parts of Orissa with emphasis on continuous life long education.
- To capitalize the above mission, the school will be strengthened as a principal portal of learning with the provision of necessary information and institutional support. The desired outcome of the education process and its renewal can be obtained to promote a positive culture and a learning environment in the school.
- To build up KISS as a preferred centre of learning for the poorest of the poor tribal children of the society with a focus on formal and livelihood education and scope for all-round development.

KIIT: A Self-Financing Professional Organization

The Kalinga Institute of Industrial Technology occupies an enviable place and is regarded as a great centre of learning in India. With ten campuses in Bhubaneswar and spread over an area of 175 acre of land, it is a great Institute and a capstone of education today. KIIT has the distinction of being the youngest institution in the country to be accorded Deemed University status. Within a very short span of time, Kalinga Institute of Industrial Technology has grown from an ITI training centre to an internationally recognized technical educational institute with comprehensive infrastructure and academic facilities. Started as an ITI centre, the centre expanded to house various programmes like Degree & Diploma in Engineering, Masters in Technology, Masters in Computer Application, and Masters in Business Administration etc. The growing

focus of the institute is on advanced technological and scientific research. KIIT Deemed University is committed to provide its students with excellent education facilities that combine state of the art academic study and the latest technological know-how with the support and intellectual stimulation. Besides providing technical education, KIIT with its endeavour to provide excellent standard has instated a medical/dental college and an international public school.

Dr. Samanta has always drawn motivation by the experience of his childhood days. He had lost his father at the tender age of four. He had virtually no means to afford his education. But the deprivation could not hold him back. In the deprivation he gathered all his mettle and managed to complete his education. Though it was utterly difficult to pursue his education, yet nothing dampened his spirit. He did not lose heart and found shelter in the house of his teacher to pursue his goal. For his deep commitment to academics he earned love and sympathy of his teachers, which helped him to complete his M. Sc degree in Chemistry in 1986.

He served for 10 years as a lecturer in various colleges under Utkal University and could have continued with the lucrative teaching job, but he preferred to set a much larger goal to achieve in his life and he had a tryst with destiny. In 1992 at the age of 27, Dr. Samanta established KIIT Society as its Founder Secretary with an Industrial Training Institute under it with only 12 students and two faculties. Through his exemplary entrepreneurship, he could transform this humble beginning to a Deemed University in the year 2004, which offers B.Tech, M.Tech MCA and MBA programmes. All these are achieved within a short span of 12 years and he became the youngest Chancellor in the Country. Amid the huge success of KIIT as an educational institution, social service has been the core philosophy of Dr. Samanta's life. Under his guidance, KIIT has taken several direct initiatives for the upliftment of tribal and other underprivileged sections of the society.

He is the Secretary of Kalinga Relief and Charitable Trust (KRCT) and Kalinga Institute of Social Sciences (KISS), which he established in 2003 and 2006 respectively to bring all social development activities of KIIT under one umbrella. He has been decorated with several awards including Humanitarian Award from Mahatma Gandhi Remembrance Organization, South Africa (2004), Honorary Doctorate from OIU, Sri Lanka (2002), Nandighosh Award (2002) and Prananatha Award (2002), to mention a few. Dr. Samanta is habituated to uncommon accomplishments; however, for him no achievement is final but a milestone in his journey. His resolve to provide free and quality education with food and accommodation to the thousands of needy and neglected tribal children in remote inaccessible parts of our state is rooted from his childhood days. His firm belief that "only education can release human from the bondage of poverty" finally paid rich dividends and the mentor continues to instil the value of education among the impoverished children of the state.

KISS is the only institution of its kind in the country that offers complete educational solution to every tribal student with formal and vocational education. It has designed education from KG to PG level. KISS curriculum is prepared for students to enroll in the primary class and move up to Higher Secondary, +2, Bachelor of Business Administration (BBA), Bachelor of Computer Application (BCA) and even one can opt for Post Graduate studies. The mediocre students can choose ITI Diploma Courses while the High School pass outs have the choice of availing several courses like driving, TV repairing, mobile phone repairing, tailoring, food preservation and canning in the KISS Polyvalent Vocational Training Centre. Beside, there are several livelihood projects like poultry, sheep and goat rearing, Pisciculture, dairy farm and agriculture. KISS has visioned a slot for each child to make a living



- Source www.kissorissa.org

Pictures Warren Duncan courtesy of Community Relations Commission for a multicultural NSW