

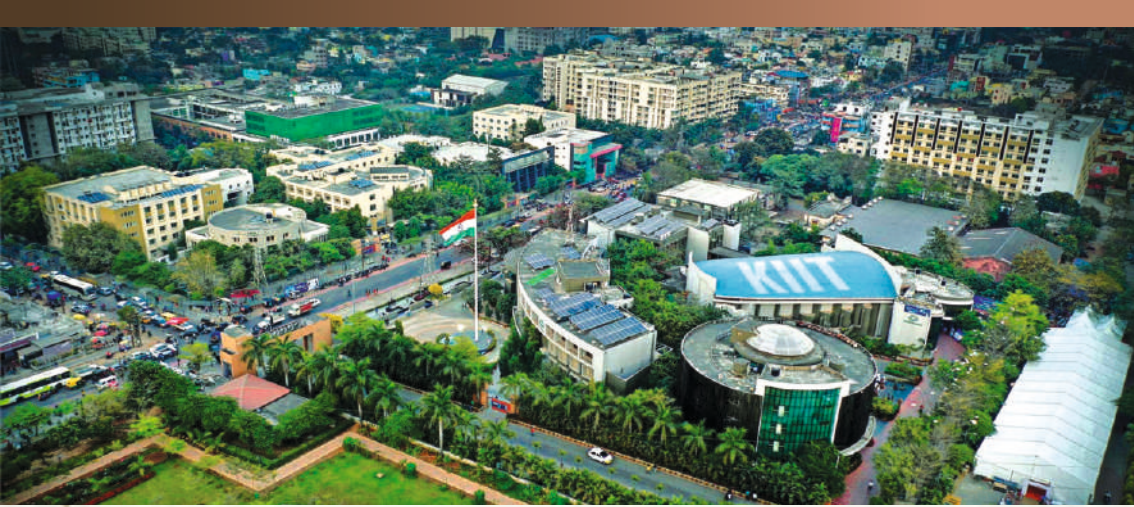
*Education is the third eye of a child.*

## **Prof. (Dr.) Achyuta Samanta**

**Founder - KIIT, KISS & KIMS, Bhubaneswar, Odisha, India**  
**Former Member of Indian Parliament**

Prof. Achyuta Samanta is a visionary educationist, global humanitarian, and founder of KIIT, KISS, and KIMS-institutions impacting 8 million lives. He believes "education is the third eye of a child". Despite global acclaim and extraordinary achievements, he lives as a bachelor in a rented apartment, embodying his philosophy: My Life My Message-proving that one person's compassion can change millions of destinies through Art of Giving.

His work spans world-class institutions, grassroots movements, and national public service.



KIIT

### **KALINGA INSTITUTE OF INDUSTRIAL TECHNOLOGY**

A premier Indian university offering cutting-edge professional education to 40,000 students from India and 70 countries, ranked among the nation's best, with A++ NAAC accreditation and UN ECOSOC Special Consultative Status.

KISS

### **KALINGA INSTITUTE OF SOCIAL SCIENCES**

The world's largest fully free residential institution for indigenous children, providing holistic education, healthcare, nutrition, and skill development to over 90,000 students and transforming lives through comprehensive quality education.

KIMS

### **KALINGA INSTITUTE OF MEDICAL SCIENCES**

A 2,600-bed multi-specialty hospital with an attached medical and dental college delivering world-class, compassionate healthcare, with a strong commitment to serving underserved communities.

SPORTS

Built one of India's largest sports ecosystems, nurturing 24 Olympians and excellence among nearly 5,000 athletes, with a special focus on chess, rugby, volleyball, and football.

### **SOCIAL CAMPAIGNS & INITIATIVES**

Art of Giving, Kanya Kiran, New Mind New Dreams, India Against Negativity, Education for All, KIIT Kares, KIIT Nanhi Pari, Health Empowerment of Rural Odisha (HERO), Kalinga Fellowship and many more.

### **PARLIAMENTARY SERVICE**

Served as Member of Parliament in the Lok Sabha (2019–2024) and Rajya Sabha (2018–2019), contributing to national policy, education reform, tribal welfare, and social transformation.

# Prof. Achyuta Samanta

## FROM POVERTY TO POWERHOUSE OF SERVICE

Prof. Achyuta Samanta is a visionary educationist, social worker, and global humanitarian, celebrated by national and international organizations, policymakers, academicians, and thought leaders. The remarkable part of his journey is that he rose from an unimaginably difficult childhood, losing his father at the age of four and growing up in poverty with a widowed mother and seven siblings to become a self-made individual whose contributions to society are unparalleled.

In 1992, starting with just Rs. 5,000 (\$100), he founded two modest institutions: the Kalinga Institute of Industrial Technology (KIIT) and the Kalinga Institute of Social Sciences (KISS). Today, these institutions are globally acclaimed. KISS is the world's largest fully free and fully residential tribal institution, offering education, food, healthcare, accommodation, vocational training, and sports empowerment to 90,000 indigenous children—40,000 current students and 50,000 alumni. KIIT is one of India's premier universities, spread over 30 green campuses, welcoming 40,000 students from across India and over 70 countries, with top national rankings and global accreditations.

Prof. Samanta's impact extends far beyond education. He has made significant contributions to art, culture, literature, media, healthcare, rural development, women empowerment, social campaigns, spiritualism, and sports. His initiatives include Art of Giving, Kanya Kiran, Kalinga Fellowship, New Mind New Dreams, Education for All, Nanhi Pari, India Against Negativity, and HERO (Health Empowerment of Rural Odisha). In sports, he has nurtured 24 Olympians alongside creating world-class infrastructure and promoting talent.

His work has earned him 75 honorary doctorates (the highest for any Indian), multiple international fellowships, over 50 top international awards, two highest civilian awards from foreign nations (Bahrain and Mongolia), and more than 200 national honors. KIIT and KISS have created direct employment for 20,000 individuals and indirect livelihood opportunities for over 3 lakh people, transforming the local economy and serving as engines of societal change. KISS has received the UNESCO International Literacy Prize, and both institutions hold ECOSOC consultative status with the United Nations.

Despite all recognition and achievements, Prof. Samanta leads a simple life as a bachelor in a rented apartment, devoted to spreading smiles and transforming lives. His guiding principle is surrender: "When you surrender to God, you stop worrying. You start working." Through KIIT and KISS, he has turned educational spaces into catalytic zones—fueling local economies, reducing extremism, curbing child labor and trafficking, and promoting spiritual, cultural, and social development. His life exemplifies that seva (service) is the highest form of sadhana (spiritual practice).

Prof. Achyuta Samanta—Founder of KIIT, KISS, KIMS, and the Art of Giving movement, and former Member of Parliament continues to inspire and transform millions of lives, proving that with devotion, vision, and surrender, passion, perseverance, the impossible becomes possible.

# Awards and Recognition

## ACADEMIC HONORS

- 75 Honoris Causa Doctorates from prestigious universities across the globe - Highest for any Indian in history
- Member of University Grants Commission (UGC), All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) and National Council for Teacher Education (NCTE)
- General President, Indian Science Congress Association (ISCA) (2017-18)
- President, XXXIX World Congress of Poets (2018-19) - Global literary and cultural organization
- Former Principal Advisor to the Department of Education, Government of Manipur

## GLOBAL RECOGNITION

- The City University of New York (CUNY) established "The Achyuta Samanta India Initiative of The CUNY CREST Institute" (ASIIC-CI)
- Highest Civilian Awards from the Kingdom of Bahrain and Mongolia
- GUSI Peace Prize International - Philippines' most prestigious award for humanitarian work and Asia's Nobel
- 6 National and International Fellowships including Fellowship of the Royal Society of Chemistry (FRSC), United Kingdom
- Senior Advisor to the President of the National Transitional Council, Republic of Guinea

## RECORDS & LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENTS

- Featured in the Guinness World Records (6 times) and Limca Book of Records (4 times)
- 50+ Top International Awards - Global recognition spanning five continents
- 200+ National and State Honors
- FIVB Grand Cross Award, FIVB's highest honor, only Indian recipient for outstanding contribution to global volleyball development
- Seven Lifetime Achievement Awards recognizing sustained excellence in education, social service, and sports development.

## INSTITUTIONAL ACHIEVEMENTS

- UNESCO International Literacy Prize 2022 awarded to KISS for exceptional contribution to literacy and tribal education

- United Nations Economic and Social Council (UN ECOSOC) Special Consultative Status for KIIT (2024) and KISS (2015), only private university in South Asia with this distinction
- 24 Olympians currently studying at KIIT while training for international competitions, representing India at Rio 2016, Tokyo 2020, and Paris 2024 Olympics
- Rashtriya Khel Protsahan Puruskar 2022, FICCI India Sports Award, Sportstar Aces Awards 2022 and 2024, India's premier sports journalism recognition, CII Sports Business Award 2023 and 2025
- FIFA Football for Schools Programme with KIIT and KISS designated as nodal center and hub for Asia and FIVB Volleyball for All Programme partnership for volleyball promotion across Asia
- Partnership with United Nations Volunteers (UNV), KIIT is the first private university in South Asia to serve as National University for UN Volunteers
- Collaboration with American Council of Young Political Leaders (ACYPL) in partnership with U.S. Department of State for global leadership and internship programmes
- Green Gown International Awards awarded to KISS for sustainability and social impact

## **PUBLIC SERVICE**

- Member of Parliament, Lok Sabha (2019-2024) representing Kandhamal constituency, Odisha in India's Lower House of Parliament and Member of Parliament, Rajya Sabha (2018-2019) representing Odisha in India's Upper House of Parliament

## **LITERARY CONTRIBUTIONS**

- Author of "My Mother, My Hero" and "Art of Giving"

## **REFLECTIONS**

- I struggled for my food for the first 25 years of my life and now, my struggle is to provide food to millions.
- Art of giving is to spread peace, harmony and happiness in the world, extending helping hand whenever and wherever it is needed and make friendships and love one and all.
- Spread smiles and appreciate, it doesn't cost you anything.
- I give all credit of what I have achieved to the almighty. I am just a medium and an instrument. It is all God's blessings.

# INSPIRATIONAL “QUOTES”

*Education is the third eye of a child.*

*In the present age, half education is more harmful than no education.*

*Poverty creates illiteracy.  
Literacy eradicates poverty.*

*Giving quality education to a deprived child is like giving sight to the blind.*

*Given opportunity, even weak can excel.*


*Continuation of beauty is more important than creation of beauty.*


*Think what I was,  
what I am and what I will be.*


*Love all, help all.*


Prof. (Dr.) Achyuta Samanta


## Achyuta Samanta

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