

Will invest ₹1L crore by 2022 to boost edu: PM

Modi: Focus On Building Of Character Over Literacy

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New Delhi: Promising to invest one lakh crore rupees by 2022 towards improving the quality of education and infrastructure, Prime Minister Narendra Modi emphasised that education should not just be limited to literacy but should also aim to build an individual's character.

"I insist that students should not just be restricted to classrooms, but they should also be part of the aspirations of the country," Modi said on Saturday while delivering the inaugural speech at the 'Conference on Academic Leadership on Education for Resurgence,' jointly organised by University Grants Commission, All India Council for Technical Education, Indian Council of Social Science Research, Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts, Indira Gandhi National Open University, Jawaharlal Nehru University and Shree Guru Gobind Singh Tricentenary University.

Setting the agenda for the conference attended by vice-chancellors and representatives from 350 universities from across the country, the PM emphasised the impor-



PM Narendra Modi

tance of character-building over literacy and called for 'wholesome' education in the country. "Ambedkar, Deen Dayal Upadhyaya and Ram Manohar Lohia always emphasised on character-building over literacy. Swami Vivekananda stressed on wholesome education that makes us a human," the PM said.

Modi asserted that without innovation life would become a burden. "Innovation is very important because without it, life seems like a burden. In our ancient universities like Takshshila, Nalanda and Vikramashila, innovation was given emphasis along with knowledge."

Stating that his government is focused on bringing the students out of the classrooms and make them agents of change, Modi said: "This is the reason for which we initiated Atal Tinkering Laboratories for school children to inculcate a culture of innovation among them."