

# G.D. NAIDU – A MOTIVATIONAL FORCE OF INNOVATION

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## Introduction

Turns back; there are many successful stories in the world to lead our life with victory. We have many ideas to do this and that but we do not know where to start and how to do? This is also one way to solve this problem. Studying past history of successful personalities and grasping the required things will help us to decide things. In this way we tried to highlight some important events of an Indian, Tamizian not only that who born in our district Coimbatore Mr. G.Duraiswamy Naidu who is popular in the name GD Naidu. Of course his life history will be a motivational source and force for the present younger generation. His Life History will be more useful and beneficial to the youngsters who really interested to invent some new things and made their lives more meaningful. Of Course it enhances the Confident level of the readers. Please go through the following pages.

## Objectives of the study

- To avoid inferiority complex among the young minds.
- To enhance the confident level towards Entrepreneurship among the youth
- To seed the ideas of innovation in the younger minds.
- To bring the habit of studying history (or) at least stories of successful personalities.

## Reason for choosing GD Naidu

Mr. GD Naidu was born in this locality Coimbatore who had very poor basic Education studied up to fourth standard only. Who born in an agricultural family, his father is a farmer. It may be surprised to note that he had appreciated by Sir CV Raman, a Noble prize winner he had touch with some important personalities namely, Kamaraj, Mahatma Gandhi, Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, Subash Chandra Bose, etc., He went London, Germany and had conference with engineers there, he met Adolf Hitler in the year 1936. Above all with out possessing any degree he had served as a Principal for some years at Arthur Hope Polytechnic College, Coimbatore.

## Significance of the Theme and this Study

I like to thank the authorities who were behind in selecting this particular theme and sub themes for this conference. This is a fact and no one could refuse that after 1930 and Sir CV Raman no Noble prize awardees found in our country in the field of Science and Technology. Government of India allocates more amount of money in each five year plans and while announcing annual budgets too through various funding agencies to motivate the scholars to do research and to develop our country. Innovative thoughts and inventions are helpful to uplift the whole community towards better life. There are no border and area restrictions for innovative thinking; we are free to choose any area we interested. In almost all the industries it is a known fact that a large amount of money spent in the field of research and development section. It is one continuous process too. The only condition for innovation is either the idea or the product should be better in all the aspects while comparing the existing models and the systems.

### **Born history of GD Naidu**

GD Naidu was an Indian inventor and engineer who is also referred to as the Edison of India. He is credited with the manufacture of the first electric motor in India. His contributions were primarily industrial but also span the fields of electrical, mechanical, agricultural (Hybrid cultivation) and automobile engineering. He had only primary education but excelled as a versatile genius. Among his hobbies was train travel to nearby cities. He was born at Kalangal near Sulur at Coimbatore district, Tamilnadu on 23<sup>rd</sup> March 1893. His childhood years were spent getting in trouble at school. He disliked attending classes and was punished frequently for his habit of hurling sand at teachers during class. He obtained work as a waiter in a hotel in Coimbatore with the intention of saving sufficient money to buy a motor cycle that he had seen. After getting the vehicle he spent time dismantling and reassembling it and later became a mechanic. Just few days before his fortieth anniversary has been observed. He was died on 4<sup>th</sup> January 1974.

### **WHAT REQUIRES FOR INNOVATIVE THOUGHTS?**

As we said earlier Mr Naidu did not complete his elementary education, his father is a farmer. He was born in a small and remote village Coimbatore district. He is not even a first generation graduate. From all this kind of observation one thing is very clear regarding innovative thoughts. Basic Education, Family background and sophisticated life are not the requirements of innovation, at the same time, Hard working, perseverance, involvement, devotion and not having the discouraging the mentality are the basic needs of innovation.

### **Dependence and Growth**

Dependence and growth are the two opposite terms. Till we depends others the growth never starts. Releasing and reducing our dependence on others take us to the next level namely Growth. In other words we can say that working independently will help us to understand the concepts better. This was happened in the life of Mr. GD Naidu. This is the moral and findings if we observe each incidents and events he gone through his life. Of course we need to consult, discuss and getting opinion from seniors and genius people. At the same time, we must ever ready to create new ideas, models and to testing them one by one by applying various formulas, principles and experiments.

Mr. GD Naidu's starts his first attempt of dismantling and assembling the motor cycle individually. He repeats this process many times to learn the function of each particle of the vehicle. This experience helps him to reach to design a low priced petrol engine car and to design a bus in modern way. A few rich people including one English man Robert Stanes helped him really in terms of providing financial assistance but intellectually he worked hard.

### **Never Stop for Adverse Result**

GD Naidu failed twice but he never gets tired, no things stopped his to move forward and towards innovative ideas. Once he lose huge amount of money in doing cotton business at Bombay. He lost nearly one and half lakh, he did not expect such a big loss in the cotton business but before he went to Bombay he had a confident to earn more money in the same business. In another occasion after having some friendship with political leaders he had contested in the General elections in the year 1936. He lost in the same election, as a result we got an inventor GD Naidu and otherwise we may study his name some where in the political area either as a Member of Parliament or as an ex-minister. Victory and Loss are common for a true leader. It never stopped the real inventors.

### **Chronological growth of GD Naidu**

- He has begun his transport business in the year 1920 at his 27 year of age.
- In 1932 he went to Europe to spend his summer. He had opportunities to see the scientific Research centres at Germany. He us really happy in seeing those things there. As a result, he invented Electric Razor blade at Germany. Even today these blades are quite popular.
- In the year 1935, he personally filmed the funeral of King George at London.
- In 1936, he met Adolf Hitler at Germany.
- In 1937 GD Naidu developed India,s first indigenus motor in 1937 at his factory NEW (National Electric Works, Peelamedu, Coimbatore)

- In 1941, he announced that he had the ability to manufacture five valve Radio sets in India at a mere cost of Rs. 70/ a set.
- In 1945 GD Naidu was the Principal of Arthur Hope Polytechnic College, Coimbatore.
- He provided employment in the engineering and manufacturing sectors to many individuals in the 1950's and 1960's.
- In 1952 he rolled out two seater petrol engine car costing a mere Rs. 2,000/. The British Government refused to grant license to produce this kind of cars.
- In 1967 GD Naidu Industrial Exhibition was established.

We must be proud of having this great scientist of Tamilnadu. He was appreciated by Sir CV Raman as "A great Educator, an entrepreneur in many fields of engineering and industry, a warm hearted man filled with love for his fellows and a desire to help them in their troubles. Mr. Naidu is truly a man in million. Perhaps this is an understatement".

### GD Naidu and Coimbatore City

The name GD Naidu never taken out from the growth history of Coimbatore city. We never forget his contribution to the present level Coimbatore. Please imagine the city Coimbatore without Siruvani water, with out Textile mills and with out Engineering Industries. In all these three areas his contributions are significant. He worked together with RK Shanmugam Chettiar, (the first Finance Minister of India) to bring Siruvani water to the city Coimbatore from Western Ghats. He introduced some new varieties of cotton by adopting hybrid cultivation method in agriculture. He developed India's first indigenous motor along with D. Balasundaram. It was the motor's success that resulted in the founding of Textool by Balasundaram and later on, Lakshmi Machine Works (LMW). These two industries generated more employment opportunities once. Not only that many people migrated from near by districts and states.

Mr GD Naidu survived and served the people of Coimbatore even after his death through his son GD Gopal and grand children GD Rajkumar and Shanthini. They are running some institutions by naming the great man GD Naidu.

### CONCLUSION

Today the Scientific and Technological advancements gave us lot of opportunities to think better and perform things faster, just by clicking the computer mouse button we could found many ideas to strengthen our R & D. At the same time we never forget our fore fathers contributions and their ideas. Inventions are also possible by developing the old systems and models. So we need to learn not to avoid Successful stories of eminent personalities and their Contributions. New things never come just by sitting and working out in one day or one night. It is the need of this hour of every Indian to raise hands to touch the peak of Noble. After 1930 and Sir CV Raman No Noble laurels reported from India in the field of Science and Technology. Innovation, Inventions would possible through hard works which make our India more Stronger, Jai Hind.