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Article regarding 75 years Celebration of Podar

# Freedom of speech needs regulation to protect rights: V-P

**AT PODAR COLLEGE** Vice-president says dissent is acceptable, but disintegration is not

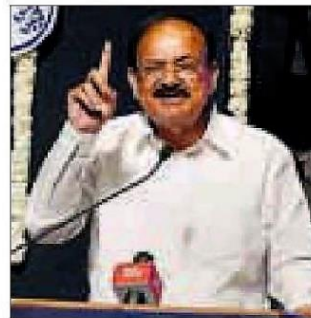
Press Trust of India

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**MUMBAI:** Freedom of speech needs regulations to protect the rights of others, vice-president M Venkaiah Naidu said on Monday, adding that while dissent was acceptable, "disintegration" was not. He said of the 700-odd universities in the country, only few "have some problems", while the rest were peaceful.

Speaking at a platinum jubilee celebration event of the RA Podar College of Commerce and Economics, Naidu said, "There is freedom of speech, but it needs some regulations to protect the rights of others as well. Dissent is agreeable, but disintegration cannot be allowed of the country. This should be understood by one and all. Disintegration, no country can accept. There are some things that make me worry... There are 740 universities in the country. Of those, 730 are very peaceful. Only a few universities have some problems. They were in the news for unnecessary controversies."

"Somewhere, a university organised a beef festival. If you want to eat, you can eat, but why organise a festival in the college and hurt sentiments of others? There were some students, who



■ Vice-president Venkaiah Naidu at RA Podar College of Commerce and Economics in Matunga on Monday. PTI

even praised terrorist Afzal Guru," Naidu said.

The vice-president said the talk of disintegration had come against the backdrop of "one of our neighbours aiding, abetting, funding and training terrorists and sending (them) here".

"I need not explain the dangers of terror to the people of Mumbai, who have gone through 26/11 (terror attacks)," he said.

India is one of the fastest growing economies with a predominantly young population and the World Bank as well as the International Monetary Fund (IMF) have predicted it will be the third largest economy in the world in seven years, Naidu said.