

# Priyanka comes back to her 'second home'

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Priyanka Kumari, crowned as the second runner-up of Femina Miss India, and a Miss Goodness Ambassador from Bihar, was a student of KK Wagh Engineering College. She was invited by the college for a felicitation held in the PC Ray Hall. Priyanka strongly believes that her success is the result of her never-give-up attitude.

Priyanka, who passed Mechanical Engineering in 2013 with distinction, said, "I still cannot believe that I won the (beauty) contest." She then expressed joy at seeing her name on the college notice board – for receiving the Female Excellence Award by Atlas Copco. "I got this award and the prize money of Rs 10,000 when I was in the third year of engineering." She believes in being polite. "My professor, Mr Joshi, used to teach me Theory of Machines. I did not understand the homework he had given. I was anxious before meeting him as I thought he would scold me. But, surprisingly, he was very polite and helpful. His politeness changed my life. I started studying better. I strongly feel that scolding and punishing is not the right attitude."

Speaking about her memories in college, she said, "My seniors and classmates had organised my birthday party at the basketball court. It was a great moment."

Her parents wanted her to take up a government job for financial security. "The job in TCS gave me



Priyanka Kumari being felicitated at KK Wagh Engineering College.

financial security but I was not happy with myself. My parents were worried when I told them about the beauty competition as it was not financially and emotionally feasible. I convinced them and they supported me."

Priyanka considers she has few feminine traits. She said, "I am not a tomboy. I am a boy. All the contestants were quite feminine. It was not easy for me to change my basic traits. I changed myself externally. Internally, I am still a boy. In college I used to play games like hockey and basketball with the guys."

She said, "Pandav cave is my favourite place where I used to hangout with my friends. We used to climb up the mountain. My friends celebrated my birthday there."

Speaking about her future plans, she said, "I want to establish an NGO to help beggars. It hurts

me when I spot any child begging at traffic signals. I will provide a helpline number through my NGO. We will provide such street children with education and adults with skills."

She did her schooling at Kendriya Vidyalaya, Ojhar, "I was a bright student. I was a topper in the Class 12 exam. In CBSE exams I had scored 94.5 percent." Speaking about her nature she said, "I am a keen observer. I learn from observation. I am not so bookish therefore I chose mechanical engineering field which requires a lot of practical knowledge. This field boosted my imagination and creativity. I learnt that any problem can be solved."

When anyone realises their dream at any stage of their life, they should start working hard to fulfill it. Get out of the comfort zone to achieve your goal, she adds.