

XII CONVOCATION
14th May 2022

Address By

Shri Biswa Bhusan Harichandan

Hon'ble Governor of Andhra Pradesh and Chancellor of the
University

Today's Chief Guest Shri S.Somanath, Chairman, Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO) and recipient of Degree of Honoris Causa, Dr. G. Satheesh Reddy, Secretary, Department of Defence Research & Development and Chairman, Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO), Sri Botcha Satyanarayana, Minister for Education, Government of Andhra Pradesh, Prof. G. Ranga Janardhana, Vice-Chancellor, Members of the Executive Council, Rector, Registrar, Directors, Faculty and Staff, Donors of Endowment Gold Medals, Recipients of Degrees and Gold Medals and their proud parents, Distinguished Guests, members of Press and electronic media, Ladies and Gentlemen, my warm greetings to you all.

Convocation of a University is the most important event of an academic calendar, and it gives me immense pleasure to be with you on this auspicious occasion of the 12th Convocation of Jawaharlal Nehru Technological University Anantapur. Convocation is a significant milestone in the academic journey of a student graduating from a University. This marks an occasion of transformation of a graduating student into a responsible citizen whose

professional skills along with the values acquired here are put to test in a real-world environment. At the same time this is an occasion for both the teaching and learning communities to reflect and set new goals and standards for the future.

JNT University Anantapur is renowned as a prominent Technological University imparting engineering, management & pharmacy education in the State of Andhra Pradesh. This University was formed in the year 2008 from the trifurcation of the erstwhile JNT University Hyderabad. JNTU Anantapur is playing an important role in training the local youth of Anantapur, Sri Satya Sai, Chittoor, Tirupati, Kurnool, Nandyal, SPSR Nellore, YSR Kadapa and Annamayya districts for their all round development.

The University right from its inception has functioned with a strong vision and mission to meet the education goals of the State as well as the Nation. The University since its formation has seamlessly conducted the convocation procedure every year with utmost devotion which is quite commendable. I am also pleased to note that the University has celebrated 75 years of glorious existence of the campus college, JNTUA College of Engineering, Ananthapuram last year in the month of December, in tune with the 'Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav' celebrations. I take this opportunity to congratulate all the stakeholders of the University who made this possible.

I offer my greetings to the young Graduates, Postgraduates and Doctorate awardees as they step into a world potent

with opportunities and challenges where merit is recognized and rewarded. The destiny of the country will be scripted by the transformed minds which will have to break free from routine thinking and come up with innovative ideas. This occasion marks an important day in your lives and a significant milestone in your life's journey. It is a moment of pride for you as much as it is for your parents, family members, teachers and those who had any part in shaping your life so far. You can remember that your mission for higher learning began here with great passion and shall continue unhindered.

Even though the COVID-19 pandemic has subsided substantially, bringing students back to regular class room learning at educational institutions, it should be kept in view that the threat of the pandemic still looms large and it calls for necessary precaution to be taken to keep ourselves and the society protected from the virus. I appeal to you all to follow the COVID-appropriate behaviour at all times and prevent spread of the virus.

India's commitment to vaccinate its population has resulted in administering around 189 crore vaccination doses till date, by covering 90% of adult population. Now the process has begun to vaccinate children also. I am happy to note that the University took several measures to protect welfare of its students and faculty by providing resilient-academic environment by reducing the delay in academic calendar due to the pandemic.

Andhra Pradesh is progressing in the right direction and JNTU Anantapur is contributing to the State's development in the field of technological education. National Education Policy-2020 framed by the Ministry of Human Resource Development, Government of India, aims to increase the Gross Enrollment Ratio from 26.2% to 50% by the year 2035. The new education policy also provides for multiple entry and exit options to students. Multi-disciplinary nature of education, globalization, and collaborations are important features of the National Education Policy 2020. JNTUA has been considered by the Government of Andhra Pradesh as one among the six Universities to be transformed into Multidisciplinary Education and Research University.

The University has successfully revised the curriculum of all its programs in line with NEP 2020. The restructured curriculum has mandatory three-week induction program, more practical component has been introduced to facilitate and improve practical skills of the students. Ten Month internships are made mandatory. Skill oriented courses such as B.Tech. (Hons) and Minor Degree Programs are introduced. The curriculum is made flexible for credit mobility. Multiple exit option is provided to the students as per the National Education Policy 2020. I am sure students enrolled recently will reap the benefits of this new education policy. I am happy to note that the University has introduced new Undergraduate programmes in latest skills like 'Internet of Things', 'Machine Learning', 'Cyber Security', 'Data Science' etc. in its affiliated colleges.

It is heartening to know that JNTUA instituted Best Teacher Awards in recognition of the merit and hard work of its faculty working in the constituent and affiliated colleges. I am happy to note that the illustrious alumni of the University have made indelible mark in many fields both in India and abroad. Today's *Honoris Causa* awardee, Dr. G. Satheesh Reddy is one of the distinguished alumnus of this great institution.

The University recognizing the importance of the old students' involvement in its development has intensified the involvement of alumni in all aspects of the development including interaction with the students, mentoring, contributing resources towards enhancing the facilities and quality of education and living on the campus, collaborating with faculty members in research and development. The University has started establishing Innovation labs with the support of the alumni to enhance innovation ecosystem in the University.

The University is in the process of setting up Department-wise Industry Advisory Boards with an objective to establish strong industry connect and provide suggestions for process improvement and curriculum improvement. This will go a long way in promotion of research and innovation in different fields and will be a step in the right direction in realizing 'Atmanirbhar Bharat' envisaged by our Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi ji.

Dear young Students, build your dream and help others build their dreams. Let us recall the famous quote of our

Former President Bharat Ratna Late Dr. A.P.J.Abdul Kalam who said:

“You have to Dream before your Dream comes True”.

You must thank your parents and family members who toiled hard to make you what you are today. You must thank God for giving you the opportunity to be in a better place. The greatest satisfaction in life lies in giving something back to the society which gave you the scope to be what you are today. Let me recall the famous quote “ask not what your country can do for you, ask what you can do to your country”. My dear students, always act in a righteous manner for the greater good of the society and your motherland.

I congratulate all the students who are receiving their Graduate and Post-graduate degrees and the research scholars receiving the Ph.D. degrees on this auspicious occasion. A special note of appreciation to the students, who are receiving gold medals today for their academic excellence.

I wish you all success in your future endeavors and I am sure you will execute the convocation oath with utmost honesty and integrity after leaving the University. The oath shall be the fundamental guiding principle in your life. I advise you to pursue and achieve excellence in your chosen field. Remember that you have a great role to play in the task of nation building. Be proud of your Alma

mater and be grateful to your parents and teachers and thankful to your companions.

I wish you all a bright future.
Thank you. May God bless you all.

Jai Hind.
