

JNTUA XIII Convocation 06-01-2024
CONVOCATION ADDRESS BY Hon'be CHANCELLOR

Shri S. Abdul Nazeer
Hon'ble Governor of Andhra Pradesh
and Chancellor of JNTUA



Today's Guest of Honour Sri Botcha Satyanarayana, Minister of Education, Chief Guest-cum-Orator Prof. Vegesna Satyanarayana Raju, Former Member, Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI), Former Chairman, Naval Research Board, DRDO & Former Director of Indian Institute of Technology, Delhi and Dr. K. Balaveera Reddy, Former Chairman, BOG, NIT-K Surathkal & Former Vice Chancellor of Visveswaraya Technological University, Belgaum, recipient of Degree of Honoris Causa in today's Convocation, Prof. G. Ranga Janardhana, Vice-Chancellor, Members of the Executive Council, Rector, Registrar, Directors, Principals of Constituent and Affiliated Colleges, Faculty and Staff, Donors of Endowment Gold Medals, Dear Students, recipients of Degrees and Gold Medals and their proud parents, Distinguished Guests, members of the media, Ladies and Gentlemen, my warm greetings to you all.

Today marks a momentous occasion in the journey of knowledge and innovation, as we gather here to celebrate the Convocation ceremony of the 2022 and 2023 graduating classes.

As the Chancellor of this esteemed Jawaharlal Nehru Technological University, Anantapur, it is both an honour and a privilege to stand before you and address this assembly of future engineers, inventors, and leaders.

This day is not merely a symbolic gesture; it is a testament to the countless hours of hard work, determination, and intellectual prowess that each of you has invested in your education. You have navigated through the complex realms of science and technology, solving problems, pushing boundaries, and embracing the challenges that come with the pursuit of knowledge.

As we reflect on the significance of this moment, let us also acknowledge the unwavering support of your families, friends, and mentors. Their encouragement and guidance has been the pillar that supported you through the highs and lows of your academic journey.

Today, as you stand on the threshold of a new chapter, remember to express your gratitude to those who stood by you. You all know that JNT University Anantapur has carved a niche for itself as a premier Technological University imparting Engineering, Management and Pharmacy education in the State of Andhra Pradesh and its jurisdiction spreads over the districts of Anantapur, Sri Satya Sai, Chittoor, Tirupati, Kurnool, Nandyal, SPSR Nellore, YSR Kadapa and Annamayya, making the Higher education accessible to local youth. With a clear vision and mission aimed at imparting world class Technological Education to the aspiring youth, Jawaharlal Nehru Technological University Anantapur has embarked on its journey since 2008, and reaching many milestones on its way.

JNTU Anantapur is contributing to the State's development in the field of Technological Education in its own humble way. I am happy to learn that in accordance with the National Education Policy-2020 framed by the Ministry of Human Resource Development, Government of India, the University has successfully revised the curriculum of all its programs. Under the leadership of Andhra Pradesh State Council of Higher Education, many innovative components like Skill Development Courses, mandatory internships and Socially Relevant Projects are included in the curriculum. These changes not only increase the employability levels of the students, but also prepare them to be aspiring entrepreneurs. Bringing in the much needed flexibility in the curriculum, Minor Degree Program, Honours Degree Program and Credit Transfer facility are introduced. Multiple exit option is provided to the students as per the National Education Policy 2020. The University is offering the courses in latest technologies such as "Cyber Security", "Artificial Intelligence", "Data Analytics", "Drone Technologies" and "Chip Design". I am happy to know that the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways (MoRTH) has sponsored a Post Graduate Program namely M.Tech. Structural Engineering (Bridges and Tunnels) in Jawaharlal Nehru Technological University Anantapur, one and only of its kind in the entire country. It is heartening to note that Jawaharlal Nehru Technological University Anantapur has been identified by the Andhra Pradesh Government for transformation into a Multidisciplinary Education and Research University.

As you all are well aware, with more than 55,000 higher education institutions, India's higher education system is one of the largest in the world. The National Education Policy-2020 is set to further transform the higher education system in the country. The policy aims to boost the higher education sector's gross enrolment ratio to 50% by 2035, offer a variety of entry and exit points, and let students select the classes that best suit their interests and abilities. The policy calls for the establishment of a National Research Foundation, a National Forum on Educational Technology, Internationalisation, Holistic & Multidisciplinary Education, Autonomy and Accountability, Inclusivity and Equity, Research and Innovation, Curriculum Flexibility and Credit Transfer, Digitalization of Teaching-Learning Process, Encouragement to Use Indian Languages, Distance Learning/Open Learning, Imparting Professional Education etc.

The goal of NEP-2020 is to develop a comprehensive, adaptable education system that can meet the demands of the 21st century and emphasises on the role of higher education in leading the country towards a developed India i.e. Viksit Bharat@2047.

Now, let me address the graduating students – the architects of the future, the engineers of progress, and the trailblazers of innovation. Your education at Jawaharlal Nehru Technological University Anantapur has equipped you with the tools and knowledge needed to tackle the complex challenges of the 21st century. But education is not just about acquiring information; it is about cultivating a mind-set, fostering creativity, and instilling a sense of responsibility.

In a world that is rapidly evolving, where technology is reshaping the very fabric of our existence, the role of engineers has never been more critical. You are not just graduates; you are agents of change, catalysts for progress, and builders of the future. The skills you have acquired here – problem-solving, critical thinking, and adaptability – are the keys to unlocking the doors of innovation.

As our Prime Minister Sri Narendra Modi once said and I quote: ***“Whatever education a university or institutes of higher education imparts, it must achieve the global level of benchmarking given the vastness and diversity of global village we live in today.”*** Unquote.

As you step into the professional arena, remember that success is not defined by the accolades you accumulate or the positions you hold. True success lies in the impact you create, the problems you solve, and the lives you touch. Your education has given you the foundation, but it is your character, resilience, and determination that will define your journey. Embrace uncertainty with courage, for it is in the face of the unknown that true innovation thrives. The road ahead will undoubtedly present challenges, but it is through these challenges that you will discover your true potential. Do not fear failure, for it is a steppingstone to success. Learn from every setback, adapt to change, and let your setbacks be the fuel that propels you forward.

Here, let us remember the words of our former President of India Bharat Ratna Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam who said and I quote: ***“Success is a vehicle which moves on the wheel named hard work and fuel called self-confidence.”*** Unquote.

In the pursuit of greatness, remember the importance of collaboration. The most significant achievements in history have been the result of collective effort, diverse perspectives, and the synergy of minds coming together. Be open to collaboration, seek out different viewpoints, and understand that the strength of a team often surpasses the capabilities of an individual.

In the ever-expanding landscape of technology, ethical considerations must be at the forefront of your endeavours. As engineers, you have the power to shape the future, but with that power comes responsibility. Consider the ethical implications of your creations, strive for inclusivity, and ensure that your innovations contribute positively to the society.

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.

In conclusion, let me quote the words of the renowned Indian scientist Vikram Sarabhai who said: ***“He, who can listen to the music in the midst of noise can achieve great things.”*** Unquote. Let your energies be focused towards this goal. Your journey will be filled with experiments, challenges, and moments of uncertainty. But remember, each obstacle is an opportunity to learn, and every set back is a steppingstone towards success.

As you enter into the world from the portals of this University, carry with you the spirit of innovation, the thirst for knowledge, and the courage to make a difference. The world eagerly waits the contributions that each of you will make, and I have no doubt that you will not only meet but exceed those expectations.

Here, I would like to once again quote the wise words of our former President of India Bharat Ratna Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam who said and I quote: ***“Umbrella can’t stop the rain but can make us stand in rain. Confidence may not bring success but gives us power to face any challenge in Life.”*** Unquote.

I congratulate the graduates of 2022 and 2023. May your future be as bright and limitless as the possibilities you hold in your hands. Go forth, conquer the world, and may your journey be one of fulfilment, impact, and enduring success.

Once again, I wish you all the best and I earnestly hope that you will make your Alma Mater and the nation proud of your achievements.

Jai Hind.
