

Maanya Shri _____ Minister for* (* in case if a protocol Minister attends)

Prof. V.S.R.K. Prasad, Director of Indian Institute of Petroleum and Energy, Visakhapatnam, Prof. M. Chandrasekhar, Director, Indian Institute of Management, Visakhapatnam, Faculty of the Institute, my dear beloved students, media, Ladies and Gentlemen. ANDARIKI NAMASKARAM.

It gives me immense pleasure to be here with you all on the occasion of the 4th Foundation Day Celebrations of the Institute.

I hope the Faculty and the students are dedicated to develop the Institute as an eminent institute of higher learning to realize the objectives behind its establishment at this City of Destiny. As you are all aware, the IIPe was set up here as a fulfillment of the promise made under the provisions of AP Reorganization Act 2014 as Institution under the Act of the Parliament, under the aegis of the Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas, Government of India.

Prof. Prasad, Director of the Institute, explained to me elaborately about the objectives of establishing the Institute and I hope and trust all the stakeholders of the Institute will play a pivotal role in achieving the objectives set out by the Institute.

I am happy to know that the First batch of the students will be graduating at the end of this academic year 2019-20 and I have no doubt that the first batch of students will keep the flag of the Institute flying. They have to shoulder a greater responsibility to act as Global

Ambassadors for the Institute, as they will be going across the world in search of better career opportunities.

My sincere advise to the Director, IIPe is to collaborate with the public and private sector companies in the oil and gas industry within the country and overseas, not only in terms of tuning up the curriculum to meet the industry requirements but also to explore internship opportunities for the students. Tie up with Research Laboratories is also essential to not only bring innovation in the industry but also to develop entrepreneurship and to cultivate start up culture among the students and research scholars.

I also understand that the research being taken up by the Institute, in the fields of Petroleum and Hydrocarbons will be very much useful to the society in general and for the growing economy of the country in particular.

As you are all aware, the oil and gas resources are abundantly available in the Krishna-Godavari Basin and it is the high time to conduct further exploration with new and innovative technology and the Institute can play a major role in this area.

It is also incumbent upon the students of the Institute to make people aware of the fast depleting resources of petroleum and gas reserves and also the environmental impact of high usage of petroleum products. People should be made aware of the need to move towards greater utilization of eco-friendly systems such as solar, wind, electric, nuclear power etc. as an alternative source of energy.

IIFE is having an added advantage of mentorship of IIT Kharagpur, which is an eminent academic institution in the country. I wish that IIFE also maintains the same level standards and quality as that of its peer institution. I am also happy to note that IIFE has entered into Memorandum of Understanding with internationally acclaimed Institutions such as the University of Houston, Texas (A&M) University, well known in the field of energy. I hope IIFE will make best use of its collaborations and gain entry among World Ranking institutions.

Global Warming, is a threat to the entire world and we are all aware of its impact on the environment. In this context, IIFE should focus on more on developing green and eco-friendly resources. India is now giving a big push towards adopting alternative energy sources to make its contribution towards improving the environmental conditions.

It is high time that more efforts are made towards adopting alternative sources of energy, as the fossil fuel resources all over the world are fast depleting.

I also acknowledge the fact that the Public Sector Oil Companies have enormously contributed in the development of the Institute and I wish to appreciate the key role played by them in this regard.

I hope the Institute with the efforts and assistance extended by the State Government and the Central Government, will shift to its new campus in an year or two in the site of 200 acres alienated to the Institute at at Vangali village, Sabbavaram Mandal of Visakhapatnam District. I wish to see IIFE to become an iconic institution of global eminence, in the near future.

My best wishes to the first batch of students who will be graduating by end of this academic year and my blessings to them to reach higher goals in their chosen field.

Before concluding, I wish quote the words of wisdom of Swami Vivekananda -

"We want education by which character is formed, strength of mind is increased, the intellect is expanded, and by which one can stand on one's own."

Jai Hind