



XI Convocation address of
Shri Biswa Bhusan Harichandan
the Hon'ble Governor and Chancellor of
Jawaharlal Nehru Technological University-Anantapuramu
on April 24, 2021

Today's Chief Guest Prof. Anil Dattatraya Sahasrabudhe, Chairman, All India Council of Technical Education (AICTE), Dr. A. Suresh, Minister for Education, Prof. Y. Venkata Rami Reddy, recipient of Degree of Honoris Causa, Prof. G. Ranga Janardhana, Vice-Chancellor, Prof. M. Vijaya Kumar, Registrar, Members of the Executive Council and Academic Senate, Members of the faculty and staff, Donors of Endowment Gold Medals, Recipients of Degrees, Gold Medals and their proud parents, Distinguished guests, 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 is a great pleasure to be here today on the occasion of the Eleventh Convocation of Jawaharlal Nehru Technological University Anantapur. Convocation is a significant milestone in the academic journey of a University. This marks an occasion of transformation when the skills as well as values acquired here are put to test in a dynamic environment outside and to rise to a higher position in life. Simultaneously, it is an occasion for the learning community here to reflect and set new goals and standards for the future. The set standards of excellence undergoes a continuous change in the real world. Accordingly, your goals should be reviewed and modified from time to time.

This university is renowned as a prominent university for technological education in the State of Andhra Pradesh. This University has a vision to meet the goals of the State as well as the Nation. I take this opportunity to congratulate all the stake-holders of the University.

I offer my profound greetings to the young Graduates, Post-Graduate 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 the mould of routine thinking and come up with innovative ideas. Today 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, 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 but it will not end here. You all are entering into world, which is exciting as well as challenging. Knowledge management experts say that institutions cannot build the future of the young, but they can build the young for the future. Because, "History has always been shaped by the power of youth".

With 17.71 % of the world population, India stands at the second position and has the highest median age group. In the recent years, the government of India's endeavour has been to engage and utilize the immense youth force of the country so that the economy can be set on the mode of 'pole vaulting' from 'leapfrogging'.

We all know that the corona virus has escalated into a global pandemic, spread across the world that resulted in an universal shift to virtual learning that proved disruptive for teachers, students, and all stake holders. However, India has proven its excellence in developing COVID-19 vaccines with indigenous technology to face the challenges posed by the Covid 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 (NEP) 2020 aims to increase the gross enrollment ratio from 26.2% to 50% by the year 2035 and also provides

multiple exit options to students. Multi-disciplinary nature of education, globalization, and collaborations are important features of the NEP 2020. I hope JNTU-A will implement the NEP in its true spirit. In this regard, it is worth to mention that JNTU-A is one among the five universities selected by the Government of Andhra Pradesh to transform into a Multi-disciplinary Educational & Research University (MERU). I hope that the faculty and staff of the University will utilize the facilities provided under the MERU scheme and transform the institution into a top technological university in the world.

Education is a process whereby one acquires the capacity to be creative and to bring out the best through a process of continuous learning. It is an established fact that the quality of education being nurtured by the University depends a lot on the linkages that are established alongside the process of producing graduates.

I am happy to know that the University has been taking steps to introduce and restructure undergraduate, post-graduate courses in the niche areas of Engineering, Technology, Pharmacy and Management constantly keeping the requirements of industry in mind. It has certainly achieved an overall improvement in the level of quality of education while providing an opportunity to young graduates of the University to acquire higher qualifications in their own State. The University curriculum is being updated with industry-institute interaction, job-oriented courses, skills and activities relevant to Industries and three Internships of up to one year duration.

The core of technical education, including the ICT, tools like virtual classrooms, incubators, and up-gradation of the capabilities of the faculty are being ameliorated by the University. JNTU-A has responded quickly to the challenge posted by the Covid pandemic and adapted to the changes in teaching and examinations. All the University examinations have been successfully conducted in online mode as per schedule. Further, the

University has conducted online regular classes for GATE/GPAT classes for both B.Tech and B.Pharmacy students which benefited the students.

At the same time, it is heartening to know that Technology is making rapid strides in various fronts like Agriculture, Medicine and Health, Communications, Environment, and Energy.

Our farming communities would benefit from climate-resilient, environmental-friendly, financially remunerative and globally competitive agriculture practices.

With advances in technology in weather forecasting, our country will be able to respond to disasters swiftly and effectively so as to minimize human, social and economic losses.

As our Prime Minister Sri Narendra Modi said *"It is our scientific capabilities that will determine our ability to overcome challenges which lie ahead in areas such as climate change, clean energy, environment friendly technologies, water management, affordable healthcare, food security and biotechnology solutions must be found in timely manner and then must move out of laboratory quickly and find wider acceptance"*.

Biotechnology is revolutionizing agriculture. Biotechnology has advanced to such points that crops are able to be developed that are drought – resistant and have better nutrient content and salinity tolerance. This technology will make high impact on Second Green Revolution to get rid of the problem of hunger in the world.

About 90 million farmers could raise their productivity with real-time market information and as many as 22 million farmers have been benefited through *"Precision Farming"* methods. Millions of workers with little formal

education could become knowledge workers in community health care, education, banking, and agriculture.

Our forefathers left a beautiful planet earth for us to enjoy. We are borrowing the future of next generation. Hence, it is our moral duty that we should leave enough resources by its judicious use, through a sustainable development model which supports conservation of resources and healthy environment for future generations. While we are looking forward to a healthy fast growing economy, it is equally important that economic growth and industrialization remain sustainable. Therefore, today, one of the biggest challenges before us is to model a sustainable development.

It is heartening to know that JNTU-A can boast of illustrious alumni who have made a mark in many fields both in India and in other countries.

Dear young Students, build your dream and help others build their dreams. You must thank your parents, 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.

I congratulate the students who are receiving medals today for their excellent performance and all the students who are receiving their graduate and post-graduate degrees and the research scholars receiving the Ph.D degrees.

I wish you all success in your future endeavors which I am sure you will execute with utmost honesty and integrity. The oath with which you would be leaving the University should serve you as the fundamental principle in your life. I advise you to pursue to achieve excellence in your chosen field. 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