



सत्यमेव जयते

Address of the Hon'ble Governor & Chancellor
Sri Biswa Bhusan Harichandan
on the occasion of eighteenth convocation of
Sri Padmavati Mahila Visva Vidyalayam, Tirupati
on Wednesday 25th August, 2021 at 10.10 hours

Prof. D. Jamuna, Vice- Chancellor, Members of the Board Of Management and Academic Council, Faculty, Officials and Staff of the University, Awardees, Distinguished Guests, dear students, proud parents, representatives of the press and the Media, Ladies And Gentlemen. A very good morning to you all.

Sri Padmavati Mahila Viswavidyalayam, located in the holy city of Tirupati, situated at the Lotus feet of Lord Venkateswara, is a distinct university, not just because it is the first university in the State of Andhra Pradesh exclusively for women, but also because of its mission to empower women with more knowledge, capacity enhancement, skill set and contribute for the development of the society.

I am happy to note that Sri Padmavati Mahila Viswavidyalayam as a Women's University has been making consistent efforts in maintaining gender equity and gender parity

Amid the global wave of Covid-19 pandemic lockdowns, there was an unprecedented rise in e-learning. The havoc caused by the pandemic across the world since December 2019 made its impact on all critical sectors and education has been affected the most. Educational institutions in India based on traditional methods of learning, following the traditional set up of face-to-face learning in a classroom setting had to transform to online platform. Although many academic institutions have started blended approach of learning, the education system across the world had to shift entirely to digital mode through online teaching-learning system.

Apart from various challenges of globalization, poor enrolment of women in higher education is another major challenge for many Indian Universities. Yet another concern is striving towards the winning credibility in the ever changing socio-technological competitive educational environment. To keep pace with these challenges, the University requires a special effort in creating unique strategies to promote vibrant perception in the minds of public and academicians.

It is time to create a special environment to make the students and academicians to be part of these challenges to realize the pace of change and learn to progress. I strongly believe that we Indians have the capability of adopting and be highly resilient to any changing situation. This instills confidence in all of us to face any change. The success across countries has recognised that higher education is a key driver of growth.

Education has been perceived as a tool of social change, advancement, and development in any society and any Nation. In tune with the New Educational Policy, 2020, higher educational institutions are expected to transform into a global hub of knowledge partners by adopting measures in:

- Improving the quality of Education in terms of acquisition of knowledge, skills and building strong industry & community connections.
- Empowering girl students to be self-sustained, employable and entrepreneurial;
- Skill based learning and training for better career options.
- Creating ecosystem for national and international exchange, collaborations and cooperation.
- Connecting communities to create sensitization on women education (gender parity) and hand-holding them to be part of main stream of development in the national agenda.

I am happy with the commitment of Sri Padmavati Mahila Viswa Vidyalam towards online teaching-learning, research, on campus innovation and entrepreneurial activities and community connect outreach activities during these days of pandemic. I congratulate every student and doctoral scholar receiving degrees today in this 18th Convocation. I am sure that the knowledge, skills and core values you have acquired as students of SPMVV will guide you to realise your life goals.

I am happy to learn that Sri Padmavati Mahila Viswa Vidyalam has been ranked 3rd among the Universities in Andhra Pradesh and 58th out of 121 Indian Universities in the country by the Educational World Review 2021, for its research activities.

To accomplish the goal of its motto "*Jnanam Nirmochanam Streenaam*" meaning 'Emancipation of women through acquisition of knowledge', the University has grown multi-fold over the years. The environment is research friendly, and has established itself as a centre of quality education, research and outreach activities. The University has built a strong ecosystem for entrepreneurial education through SPMVV Campus Synergy for Innovation, Incubation and Entrepreneurship (SPCSIIE).

The University remains firmly rooted in with its unique identity, recognition and reputation as the only Women's University in the State and is committed towards its vision with strong core values and high aspirations for the development of women students. The future agenda of SPMVV is to emerge as an Institution of Eminence for women education in the Nation.

The courses mostly applied in nature with training and skilling in the direction of availing career opportunities for women students in industry and research institutions while nurturing innovations, and promoting entrepreneurial skills. The research and doctoral programmes provide context to express their capabilities to be more creative and independent in their chosen areas of research.

Sri Padmavati Mahila Visvavidyalayam is one of the top universities in Andhra Pradesh with more than 6000 students on its rolls on campus regular, distance and international along with all research centres. There is an upward shift in the intake of student enrolment in the last 3 years with its significant new programmes and their visible impact. Sri Padmavati Mahila Visvavidyalayam provides a place of study having wide range of amenities and support services to the students with an atmosphere for inculcating curiosity, creativity and innovative thoughts.

I am glad to know that during January 2021, the University established a Centre for Women Safety (CWS) to address the women safety issues and threats and to ensure the safety and security of women on the campus and women and girls across 13 districts of Andhra Pradesh.

In line with the recommendations of National Education Policy 2020, the University has adopted a multidisciplinary approach in all courses for curricular revision and to promote and strengthen entrepreneurship and capacity building by establishing a strong connection among women in the communities.

Before concluding, I would like to recall what Dr. B.R. Ambedkar said about women's education:

"We shall see better days soon and our progress will be accelerated if male education is persuaded side by side with female education."

I am indeed very happy to be a Chancellor of this Women's University and share your joy on this day. I congratulate each and every student and research scholar receiving her degree today. I am sure the knowledge, skills and values acquired by you at this University will guide you to reach higher goals in life.

Jai Hind