23rd Convocation North Maharashtra University, Jalgaon

Address

By

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Prof V K Jain, Vice Chancellor, Doon University (Uttarakhand State) Dehradun, Vice Chancellor of North Maharashtra University Prof. Sudhir U. Meshram; Deans of Faculties; Members of Board of College and University Development, Management Council, Academic Council, Senate and other Governing Bodies; Directors of the Schools; Registrar Prof A.M. Mahajan; Invited dignitaries; Staff Members of the University; Graduating Students and their Proud parents; Friends from the Media, Ladies and Gentlemen,

1. At the outset, I must say how deeply honoured I feel at having been invited to address this distinguished gathering on this auspicious occasion,marking the 23rdconvocation of this prestigious University. My best wishes to you all on this momentous occasion.I extend my hearty congratulation to all the graduating students for having achieved a landmark in their lives through excellent academic performance. At the same time, I commend the significant contribution of faculty members for imparting best training and guidance to the students with affectionate acumen.

2. This esteemed university provides an ideal atmosphere for pursuing research in diverse areas of science, arts, commerce and languages. Over the years, it has made a significant contribution in various areas of research and teaching, and continues to strive for excellence.

3. I understand, there are 220 affiliated colleges and four recognized Research Centres under the jurisdiction of North Maharashtra University. One can easily make out the educational spread of the University which encompasses the eight core Faculties, 13 Schools and one Institute contributing into the well structured educational framework. I am delighted to know that the new schools on social sciences, humanities and thoughts

are inculcating the value based education and instilling importance of national heritage in the mind of the students. This would go long way in preserving very rich tradition of antiquity and local knowledge, which otherwise would have swept away in the wave of modernization and cultural hybridization.

4. I am very happy to note that, since its establishment on 15th August, 1990, the North Maharashtra University has made a striking journey in spreading education in the rural areas of Khandesh region of Maharashtra and shaping the life of the tribal people professionally and intellectually. The universities jurisdiction covering the districts of Jalgaon, Dhule and Nandurbar, is a predominantly tribal area. The University has done great yeoman service by establishing *Eklavya Centre* to cater the needs of tribal students and farmers. Moreover, the proposed Tribal Academy at Nandurbar will be yet another significant step towards empowering the tribal population. It is also inspiring that the farming communities of this region get access to the modern and advanced technologies through Lab to Land Project and it led to improving their socioeconomic conditions.

5. Friends, Higher Education in India has a history stretching back to the primordial urban centres of learning at Takshashila and Nalanda that was the oldest university-system of education in the world. Over the time, Indian higher education system has made considerable progress in terms of capacity building and enrolment.

6. Standing here, among these bright faces on both sides of the rostrum and looking at the track record of your distinguished alumni, - I have absolutely no qualm that our education system is in the right track to take us to greater

heights. It is heartening to note that North Maharashtra University, Jalgaon has been acquired 1st position in the Universities of Maharashtra State and 27th position in India as per "Careers360's" Magazine published during March, 2014. My hearty congratulations to all stakeholders of this stupendous institution!

7. A confident India, filled with ideas and vigor, can plan an extremely constructive role in the world. In my opinion, we have the tremendous potential achieve the progress India can make by judiciously utilizing India's natural and demographic diversity amalgamating with technological knowhow. You have the capacity to make all this possible and I am sure you will.

8. Friends, to remain globally relevant and competitive would require India to be prominently placed on the global higher education map and to project itself as a hub for talent and a culture of research, innovation and entrepreneurship. Higher education not only equips young people with skills relevant for the job market but also provides people already in employment with skills to negotiate rapidly evolving career requirements. On the brighter side, the Indian higher education system is expected to emerge as a role model for high quality affordable educational system and a global magnet of aspiring learners in the coming decades, provided the gap areas are addressed promptly. This scenario would enable India to emerge as the largest provider of global talent, with one in four graduates in the world being a product of the higher education system.

9. The advancements made by India in the technological fronts such as biotechnology, information technology, nuclear technology and space

technology; booming service sector; India is really emerging as a global power. Thanks to these developments and the achievements of youngsters like you, our motherland has become cynosure of the eyes of many countries in the world. India is today seen with respect as a vibrant emerging economy.

10. My dear friends, talents arising out of wisdom lead to fulfillment, satisfaction and prosperity, not only to the individual but also to the society at large. Prosperity does not mean earning. Living with contentment is the first sign of prosperity and being useful to the people and the society around you will bring you the greatest satisfaction and fulfillment. Modesty and humility, even as you achieve success, will bring you more laurels and recognition. A system bringing value congruence amongst the organizational, personal and business ethics along with the societal outreach will enable the individuals in you to exercise your freedom and reach your full potential, leading to a sense of belonging, joy and completeness. Visionary approach to solving problems and taking the benefits of high technology to improve the quality of life should be your motto. It is one such vision enunciated by Dr. Vikram Sarabhai that propelled the Indian Space Programme to reach the current status, wherein it is hailed as one of the most cost-effective programmes in the world with societal outreach.

11. The strategy adopted for the Indian space programme is essentially towards building an indigenous capability in building Satellites and Launchers with front-ranking research and development advanced systems using innovative technologies, setting up appropriate institutional

arrangements in the country to adapt and absorb the innovative applications into national developmental needs.

12. India has today a state-of-the-art constellation of remote sensing, communication and navigation satellites, and the indigenous launch vehicles capable of launching these advanced satellites into orbit. At present, India is one of the top 6 countries in the world, which have end-to-end capability in operational space programme, integrating the products and services meeting the developmental priorities in the country. The main feature of this programme has been energizing a social process to enhance the quality of human resources and empower the local community through seamless integration of space technology products and services into the societal fabric.

13. Let me dwell a bit on one important element of this programme i.e. Remote sensing from satellites that has emerged as an important and powerful tool for natural resources management and monitoring of environment at global, regional and local levels. Satellite remote sensing, has been providing valuable and timely information in the agricultural sector towards estimating crop acreage and forecasting crop production for major crops such as rice and wheat prior to harvesting; soil and water conservation activities for watershed development in the dryland areas; enhancing the irrigation potential and improving the water use efficiency in the irrigated command areas; analyzing the cropping systems for intensification and diversification and monitoring the crop losses due to flood and drought. Satellite remote sensing data has also been utilized for identifying different categories of wastelands towards reclamation for appropriate agriculture activities; and

for assessing the land degradation and soil mapping purposes. Watershed development holds the key for enhancing the productivity levels and also sharing the benefits of natural resources equitably as well as halting the soil erosion and land degradation. Space applications have been tailored to respond integrated development of land and water resources, as well as non-land based activities (viz., income generation, training, capacity building etc.) and assess the improvements of the treated watershed.

14. A large number of remote sensing application projects have been carried out during the last four decades in the country. Some of the important projects carried out in the country are Integrated Mission for Sustainable Development, National Drinking Water Mission, Forest Cover assessment, Wetland Mapping, Biodiversity Characterization, Snow & Glacier studies, Land Use and Cover mapping, Potential Fishing Zone Advisories, Coral reef and Mangroves mapping etc. Current applications are wide spread and cover research and operational activities in studying land, water, oceans and atmosphere.

15. My dear friends, you must be eagerly looking towards Indian Mars Orbiter Mission. Chandrayaan-1, India's first lunar mission, placed India to the leading position among the space faring nations. But India created history on 24th September 2014, becoming the first nation to successfully place a spacecraft in Martian orbit on its maiden attempt.Orbit insertion was a thrilling moment. Before India, other few countries have launched Mars missions, however, out of the 51 attempts, only 21 were successful. India now joins the prestigious Martian club that comprises the US, Russia and the European Space Agency. The Indian mission was accomplished with a

cost of Rs 450 crores and was much less as compared to the missions build for Mars by other countries.

16. Mars Orbiter Spacecraft was launchedfrom Sriharikota on November 5, 2013 using PSLV-C25 and the spacecraft reached to Martian orbit after spending more than 300 days since it left the Earth orbit. The Mars Orbiter placed in a Martian orbit, with a Periapsis height of 365 km, Apoapsis height of 80,000 km with an inclination of 150 degrees and an orbital period of about 77 hours. Communications during the Mars mission are supported by India's Deep Space Network Ground Stations at Bylalu near Bagalore while coverage for critical mission events such as Mars Orbit Insertion is supported by NASA's global Deep Space Network.

17. Once Mars Orbiter Mission was closest to a comet Siding Spring on October 19, 2014. The orbital correction placed the spacecraft in a safe spot when the comet flew past the Red Planet. The distance between MOM and the comet was more than 80 thousand km.

18. At present the Mars Orbiter Mission is progressing as planned. After the remarkable success of the mission, ISRO is hopeful that the spacecraft will keep operating more than its designed life. The only consumable that has to be managed is propellant and so far, propellant consumption has been good and this may allow the spacecraft to remain operational in the orbit

19. Mars Orbiter Mission carries five payloads on board to carry out observations of physical features of mars and limited study of Martian atmosphere. The five payloads are - Mars Colour Camera (MCC), Thermal Infrared Imaging Spectrometer (TIS), Methane Sensor for Mars (MSM),

Lyman Alpha Photometer (LAP) and Mars Exospheric Neutral Composition Analyzer (MENCA). Operating its five instruments, MOM gathers data on the composition of the rarified outer atmosphere of Mars, the composition and variation of the Martian surface, the methane content in the atmosphere, and surface features that are imaged by the Mars Color Camera which can deliver closer photos when the spacecraft is in the lower portion of its orbit up to full-disk images of Mars when further from the planet.

20. ISRO has released a series of images showing unknown photos of Mars. One such photo shows the Martian Moon Phobos passing between the spacecraft and the planet. The image also provides a stunning view at the thin atmosphere enveloping planet Mars. The other photos show the Martian volcano Arsia Mons and Valles Marineris, one of the largest canyon systems in the solar system. ISRO has also released the reflection map created with data from the 1.65-micron channel of the Methane Sensor for Mars instrument. The map has dark blue areas represent low albedo features while red areas reflect a significant portion of infrared radiation.

21. Dear friends, you are all now at a very interesting turning point in your life. After spending your time within the confines of a protected environment of school, college, you will now be exposed to the realities of the world. Life outside the walls of a college or university is very different. How well you perform in this real world depends on many aspects. It depends on your ability to use knowledge you have acquired, skills you have learnt and the ability to adapt to a work environment as necessary to survive the real

world. You are stepping out into a world, which is on the threshold of seeing India play a very significant role in many areas.

22. My dear young friends, I reckon it is a momentous occasion of your life as you set to join the youngest and the most aspiring workforce of the world to contribute to one of the largest economies. At this juncture, I would like to leave you with a few thoughts to ponder over.

- **Always dream and aspire**. Set your Vision and Goals high. Remind yourself regularly that you are better than you think you are. The size of your success is determined by the size of your belief.

- **Enhance your ability to learn**. Remember, the degree, the recognition and the appreciation that you received here had only made you a better learner. One needs to carry with oneself this precious habit of learning till the end.

- **Be innovative**. This is the decade of innovation. In my opinion Innovation is just the bridge between an existing technology and the latent demand for a product or service. Always look for the smallest idea that would lead to the innovation.

- **Inculcate the spirit of leadership**. Judge yourself by the number of leaders you help create.

- Measure your success not by wealth and fame but by **how successfully you solved your problems**.

- **Develop strength of character** and deep-rooted values. Enhance your spiritual and emotional quotient.

23. As you walk the path of professional success, do remember to contribute to the society that saw you grow to your stature. I would like to quote Swami Vivekananda As told by Swami Vivekananda *"Take up one idea. Make that one idea your life - think of it, dream of it, live on that idea. Let the brain, muscles, nerves, every part of your body, be full of that idea, and just leave every other idea alone. This is the way to success that is way great spiritual giants are produced."*

24. Let me take this opportunity to congratulate each one of you, and sincerely wish an exciting, challenging and a satisfying journey ahead. I wish, you choose a profession that will be driven by inquisitiveness and curiosity leading to the fulfillment of all your dreams whilst using your talent, competence and energy for creating peace and prosperity for the nation. May your life be a bright one, and may its lustre brighten the entire country! May the Almighty always be with you in your journey of success!

Thank you and God bless you!

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