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NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY, KURUKSHETRA
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Respected Prof. Dinesh Singh, Chief Guest of today's convocation and my colleague Dr. Bhujanga Rao, the Guest of Honour, who have received their Honorary Doctorates of NIT Kurukshetra, Prof. Anand Mohan, Members of the Governing Board, Distinguished Guests, Deans, faculty and staff members of the Institute, Graduates who have just received certificates and medals and their proud parents, friends from Media, Ladies and Gentlemen. My Greetings.

I am indeed delighted to be among this august gathering and the enthusiastic Graduates. I am sure, a great future is in front of you and my best wishes to you all to rise to greater heights in your career path. You are fortunate to have studied in NIT Kurukshetra – the place well-known for religious thoughts, historical importance and righteousness. The divine Hyme from Putaparthi says:

*Where there is righteousness in the heart,
There is beauty in the character.
When there is beauty in the character,
There is harmony in the home.
When there is harmony in the home,
There is an order in the Nation.
When there is order in the Nation,
There is peace in the world.*

Your life will be pleasant and you will be happier if you follow this message.

You all know that Saraswati River was once flowing near this place making the whole area vibrating with knowledge, culture and civilization. Sages recited Vedas here. Our Rishis of those days were forerunners of scientific thoughts in the fields of Algebra, Trigonometry, Medical Sciences, Surgery, Metallurgy, Cosmology, Atomic Theory, Space Travel between planets and so on. Aryabhat was the first to declare that the Earth is round and rotates on its axis, Bhaskaracharya enunciated the Theory of Gravity 500 years before Isaac Newton, Acharya Pingla formulated the Binary Numeral System which became the basis for today's software. Such was the power of ancient Indians. We all belong to that Gene. That means if our genes get properly actuated, then we will be the first in the world.

It is again time for India to regain our heritage and wisdom with her 580 million youth below 35 years of age and availability of large scale natural resources, using technology and knowledge power, to enrich our lives. You can do it !

The advent of information technology has put us a lead country among the world. Mission mode programmes came as handy in attaining self-sufficiency in many fields using science and technology. DRDO has succeeded in developing the critical technologies indigenously overcoming the technology denial controls imposed by the developed countries. Super computing, re-entry technology, Electronic Warfare systems, Radars, devices, information security systems, Cryptology, advanced sonar systems for ships and submarines, underwater communication, unmanned vehicles, robotic systems, realisation of Nuclear powered submarine Arihant, Arming Indian defence forces with the fastest supersonic cruise missiles BRAHMOS and attaining capability of reaching targets more than 5000 kms with Agni V, are few notable examples to quote. ISRO has achieved self-reliance in space technology putting ahead India among a few countries in the world. We have set our targets to study the possible rare energy materials from moon and Mars for solving the energy crisis and for finding out new lives. After the

successful five tests, India had established its Nuclear Weapon Status among the few countries in the world. We are now looking at the utilisation of the nuclear energy to maximise our electric power generation. We see the trend in multiple areas. The nation is moving in the direction of growth with technology as the driver and in this growth path, every one of you will have to find a place to contribute for the nation.

When the history of India is written, specific achievements like the Green Revolution is highlighted in a page. Your achievements should also find a page in the History of India. Will you do it and bring glory to your institute.

Researches in the academic institutions have always been a support for design and development. Academic institutions are the rich source of knowledge and it is necessary to associate the research component with R&D. Many institutions had been involved in development of critical technologies. It is pertinent to mention that in the Golden Jubilee Year NIT Kurukshetra has advanced in multiple directions including formation of four new Schools of PG Studies and Research in niche areas of science and engineering. This is a welcome step in the direction of attaining the status of world class institution.

I would like to conclude with what Swami Vivekanand said,

“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 the body, be full of that idea, and just leave every other idea alone. This is the way to success.”

Wishing you all the best in your future endeavours.

Jai Hind !