ADDRESS
OF
LT GENERAL NIRBHAY SHARMA,
PVSM, UYSM, AVSM, VSM (RETD),
HON’BLE GOVERNOR,
ARUNACHAL PRADESH
ON THE OCCASION OF
12TH CONVOCATION
OF
RAJIV GANDHI CENTRAL UNIVERSITY
AT
RONO HILLS, DOIMUKH
ON
30 NOVEMBER 2013
I deem it my proud privilege to be part of the 12th Convocation of Rajiv Gandhi University, which is being graced by the President of India. It is a moment of pride, privilege, and joy for the entire State.

I also take this opportunity to congratulate the students, who have been conferred with degrees, marking a fulfillment of their academic objective.

Ever since its inception, this university has carved a niche for itself in the educational scenario of the country. It has been selected as a University with potential for excellence amongst universities in India. The University has been chosen for research and development and is presently working on a project titled ‘Potential for Excellence in Bio-Diversity.’

Hon’ble President will be pleased to know you that out of 1498 (One Thousand, Four Hundred and Ninety-Eight) students of RGU, we have 673 (Six Hundred and Seventy-Three) Tribal girl students, which makes about 45%. It indicates the positive impact of girl education in the State and the enthusiasm of our Tribal girls towards better and higher education.

The teaching and research programmes of the University are designed with a view to play a positive role in the socio-economic and cultural development of the State. The departments have been organizing large number of seminars, conferences and workshops, which had eminent participants from different parts of the State and country. Further the faculty members have been publishing a large number of individual research papers, articles and books, which are very inspirational for the students’ community and are being published within the country and abroad. Recently, they are working on 32 (Thirty-Two) major research projects sponsored by various agencies. To them my advice is to continue to enhance the quality of research.

As Chief Rector of the University, I am indeed heartened to note that the University has an Arunachal Institute of Tribal Studies, which offers M.Phil, Ph.D. and Language package courses.

The University has been extending educational facilities to the students from the neighbouring States, particularly Assam. The strength of students in different Departments of University and in affiliated colleges has been steadily increasing. There are 26 (Twenty-Six) colleges affiliated to the University. Alongside, there is a need for exchange programmes with other Universities of India and abroad, which we believe will be mutually beneficial to the students and researchers of both sides and add value to the education.
Today is a very special occasion for all the One thousand One Hundred and Thirty-Five candidates, which include 837 undergraduates, 234 postgraduates, 36 in Master of Philosophy, and 28 in Doctorate of Philosophy, who will be receiving their degrees. This is also a moment of pride for the faculty, parents and guardians, who stood by firmly behind them.

The students being conferred degrees must remember that the occasion indicates that you have imbibed the values and skills needed to deal with the challenges in the days to come. Now it is the time to contemplate the values you take with you, the expectations you have of the world, the opportunities now opening before you and the aspirations that you have nurtured all these years.

We have high expectations from you, not only that you grow as professionals, but also as intelligent, responsive and responsible citizens of our country. In achieving it, remember that excellence is the key and mediocrity has little place in the world of today. Quest for knowledge, having a sense of purpose and being watchful of not being trapped by dogma are essential to succeed, but above all, you need to discipline yourself. As Lord Buddha said, I quote, ‘To enjoy good health, to bring true happiness to one’s family, to bring peace to all, one must first discipline and control one’s own mind. If a man can control his mind he can find the way to Enlightenment, and all wisdom and virtue will naturally come to him’. Unquote.

To the faculty, I will say that one of the biggest challenges we face is creating human resource qualified to meet the needs of today’s dynamic world. We must make our students ready for avenues of employment, entrepreneurship and industry. By making our research and designing our courses relevant to the present requirement.

As you all know, our State is on a path of rapid development and will become the power house of the Nation in next decade or so, with an estimated capacity of 55,000 MW of hydel power. It also has immense potential for tourism. These two sectors along with agriculture, horticulture and allied sectors are the future growth engines of Arunachal Pradesh. Creation of necessary infrastructure holds the key for all this. We need to prepare our human resource keeping in view the future socio-economic requirements of our State and the country to effect balanced development.

The ongoing courses in these fields in the university are well equipped to meet the future requirements. Relevant studies including high end research in these fields must be pursued vigorously. I envisage the university to become a major consultant in rapid progress and development of the State and the country as a whole. Given the size of the campus alone, you have tremendous potential to grow, both qualitatively and quantitatively. You have it in you to be a global centre of excellence. Go for it. Remember no dream is too big.
Let me now conclude by expressing our heartfelt gratitude to Hon'ble President for gracing this very special occasion. Hon'ble President, under your able guidance, this University hopes to touch new height of excellence in every field.

Once again I wish the graduates a bright and rewarding future. May the Almighty bless you all with success and fulfillment of your cherished ambitions.

Thank you very much.

Jai Hind.