



Professor N.L. Mitra
Chancellor

Chancellor's Address

Distinguished Nobel Laureate Professor Sir John Walker, eminent Professor of Medical Science, Professor Emeritus Dr. Hans Hengartner, Padmashree Dr. A. S. Kiran Kumar, Hon'ble Chairman, ISRO, Padmashree Dr. Sekhar Basu, Secretary, Department of Atomic Energy, Govt. of India & Director, Bhabha Atomic Research Centre, eminent economist Padmashree Dr. Bibek Debroy, Member of the NITI Aayog, Dr. H. R. Nagendra, Chancellor, S-VYASA Deemed University, galaxy of academics, scholars, researchers, faculty members, parents of our graduating students and my dear graduating students, Ladies and Gentlemen.

The month of November is a dear month of a year to all of the family members of the KIIT University because of the grand and solemn Convocation organized for our graduating students of the University. Higher education has a very significant role in each of our life and living. Universities in pursuit of higher education collect pieces of blunt, raw and heavy diamond stone and then cut out in dazzling precious invaluable pieces to be fitted in ornaments to decorate presentation of beauties. Universities cut out talents, intellects, knowledge to grow into wisdom in our human resource to present them to face challenges of life. Universities are therefore the workshop of '*vidya*'. '*Vidya*', that is knowledge acquired from external sources. According to *Upanishad*, '*Vidya*' can be of two types: '*para-vidya*' and '*aparavidya*' one that transcends mind into the realm of wisdom and the other that enhances skills ultimately developing technology and innovation. One builds up character and the other provides a carrier of a person to physically meet challenges of life & living with desired material comfort.

That University is one of the best which can harmonize these two forms of education to properly build up character and carrier of an integrated personality with a strong 'soul' and a tough 'self'. Any mismatch may create either a selfless saint or a selfish giant. Universities thus have the duty towards the society to create a human resource needed for the contemporary time. Universities' task is to create the depth in the realm of mind to transcend from 'self' to 'soul'. A life then indeed becomes worthy of living.

Christianity preaches an edict of life, “Love thy neighbour as thyself”! This is exactly what is the moto of education in anyone's life-support system. Our alumni brighten the face of their '*alma matter*' by practising such an altar of life! We are indeed proud of them! Graduating students! you are going to join this brand of loving elder brothers and sisters of yours who will greet them in the outside world in the realm of application of their knowledge and skill.

I am indeed beholden to all of our D.Litt. and D.Sc. recipients who gracefully accepted our proposal of honouring them with the degrees of the University *honoris causa* and thereby honouring ourselves associating them with the University as honorary alumni of the University. I also do not know any other Indian University in which three consecutive Convocations were addressed by three Nobel laureates, all in a row, creating a noble hatrick in motivating our researchers. One of the reasons may be that all of the Nobel laureates were perhaps impressed with the great humanitarian and educational service of our Hon'ble Founder Dr. Achyuta Samanta in trying to establish a principle of his life experience, 'integrating humanity through education'. In his Kalinga Institute of Social Sciences he puts in his time, talent and treasure to educate nearly 25,000 children from indigenous communities in India in one campus educating them from primary to post graduate level and orient their entire life and living in the campus completely from his resources from begging and borrowing.

KISS imparts good education and attempts to integrate them with mainstream students in higher education, yet cultivating their traditional and indigenous culture. I am also indebted to other dignitaries, Professor Dr. Hans Hengartner, a world famous educationist in medical science and research, world famous researchers and institution builders like space scientist, Dr. A. S. Kiran Kumar, nuclear scientist Dr. Sekhar Basu, economist Dr. Bibek Debroy and illustrious Yoga teacher, Dr. H. R. Nagendra for gracing the Convocation with their august presence and accepting to be our honorary alumni.

We assure them that this University and all its Schools like School of Technology, School of Electronics and Telecommunication, School of Management, School of Science, School of Social Science, School of Law, School of Biotechnology, School of Medical Sciences, School of Dentistry, School of Nursing, School of film acting and direction – all these and other associated institutions like its Polytechnic Institute, International School and Institute of Social Sciences shall feel proud of you and shall also make you proud of them.

This University is a Central Self-financing University founded under the UGC Act. We are now aware that entire Nation is now expecting high achievement and excellence from this University – a dream institution of the Hon'ble Founder, in years to come. My academic administrators, Faculties of the Schools and my dear students and researchers are all geared in full commitment to give the Nation a very best educational enterprise for years to recon with.

Let us all feel that we are all “*amritasyaputra*” and are energized with new spirit to build!

Jai Hind!

Professor N.L.Mitra
Chancellor