



Prof. P. P. Mathur

Vice Chancellor, KIIT University

Vice Chancellor's Report

Hon'ble Chancellor of the KIIT University Prof. N. L. Mitra; all the distinguished persons on the dais; Hon'ble members of the Board of Management and Academic Council; Founder of the KIIT University Dr. Achyuta Samanta; President of the KIIT & KISS Society- Smt. Saswati Bal; Secretary of the KIIT and KISS Society Shri R. N. Dash; Members of the Society of KIIT & KISS, Faculty members, officers, staff members, parents and guardians of the graduands, my dear graduands, distinguished invited guests, media persons, Ladies and gentlemen:

It is my great honor and privilege to welcome each one of you on behalf of the University and on my own behalf to this auspicious and solemn occasion of the 11th Convocation of the KIIT University. At the outset, I offer my heartiest congratulations to each one of the graduands who is present here and those who could not attend but will be getting degrees in absentia for their hard work, parents and guardians for the sacrifices made and the faculty members for spending their time in mentoring them to complete their studies successfully and timely. Special congratulations to all the Medal winners and their parents for their achievements. I also express my sincere appreciation to the staff of KIIT University for their assistance and to make the University a place of excellence and fine achievements. Today 4573 graduands will be awarded graduate and postgraduate degrees in various disciplines and 39 candidates will be awarded Ph.D. degrees.

I feel greatly honored to inform that Honoris Causa degree of Doctor of Science will be conferred upon Professor Sir John E. Walker, Nobel Laureate in Chemistry (1997); Prof. (Dr.) Hans Hengartner, Professor Emeritus, ETH and University Hospital Zurich; Padmashri Shri A. S. Kiran Kumar, Chairman, ISRO; Padmashri Dr. Sekhar Basu, Secretary, Department of Atomic Energy, Govt. of India & Chairman, Atomic Energy Commission; Dr. H. R. Nagendra, Chancellor, S-VYASA Deemed University, Bangalore and Doctor of Letters will be conferred upon Padmashri Dr. Bibek Debroy, Indian Economist and Member, NITI Aayog.

I congratulate and thank each one of them for their acceptance. Sirs, your august presence has made this celebration and convocation ceremony very glittering and memorable not only for our graduands but for every one of us in the KIIT University. Ours is a young but very vibrant university. We celebrated its 11th Foundation Day in the February last. I am extremely happy to report to you that in such a short span of time the University has got a very high visibility and has been recognized as an institution that is involved in a very high quality teaching and research in diverse fields. The University has been conferred category 'A' status by the Ministry of Human Resource Development, Govt. of India and the National Board of Accreditation, Govt. of India has accredited its five engineering undergraduate programmes under Washington Accord. The University campus is home to around 25,000 students from different states of the country and abroad. The demand for various courses in the University is very high. In the current year 205649 students appeared for the on-line Entrance Test conducted by the University in 126 centres at 56 locations across the country and abroad. Out of them only 5,833 students got admitted in the University.

During this year a galaxy of top dignitaries, scientists, academicians and diplomats from India and abroad visited the University and made us richer by their gracious presence and sharing of their experiences. The list of such dignitaries is too large to be read here but to name a few: Prof. Ferid Murad, Nobel Laureate in Physiology or Medicine (1998), USA; Justice H. L. Dattu, Chief Justice of India; Justice Dalveer Bhandari, Judge, International Court of Justice; Dr. Pinky Anand, Additional Solicitor General of India; Justice Swatanter Kumar, Chairperson, National Green Tribunal; Shri Faggan Singh Kulaste, Chairperson, Parliamentary Committee on The Welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes; Padma Bhushan Shri Govindarajan Padmanaban, Former Director, IISc, Dr. Earl H. Potter, President, St. Cloud State University, USA; Mr. Timothy Searight, Senior litigation Counsel, US Attorney's Office, California; Dr. Malcolm J Woodfield, Vice President, SAP; Mr. Girish Krishnamurthy,

Vice President, TCS; Ms. Akila Urankar, President Business Standards; Manneet Singh, Director in-charge, Sports Authority of India; Shri Gautam Kaul, President- FFSI etc.

The number and quality of faculty have the greatest impact on the performance of an educational institution. During the period of the report the University has recruited 275 faculty members in its various schools, most of them have post-doctoral and industry experience. The University organized Faculty Development programmes. In addition, we have numerous ongoing incentive schemes such as Start-up grants to the newly joined faculty who need institutional support for kick-starting their research and innovations. Such efforts will lead to better teaching and research outcome.

Last year has witnessed a greater focus on building research facilities augmented by funding from various national and international funding agencies. Many new labs have been added in various schools during this year. Resources have been generated by the faculty through sponsored research projects which have added value to their research and technology development. Faculty members of the University have actively involved themselves in consultancy projects from various industries. Currently 103 research and consultancy projects funded by various national and international funding agencies are ongoing with a total budget outlay of over Rs. 28 crores. I offer congratulations to the faculty members for getting these grants. I am sure that the number of extramural projects will further increase during this year.

During the past one year, faculty members and research scholars of the University published around 600 research papers in peer reviewed journals and around 200 papers were presented in national and international seminars/ conferences. Over 400 of the research papers have been indexed in international databases like Scopus.

The papers have been receiving good number of citations thereby pushing up the 'h' index to 22. In addition, twenty three books and seventeen book chapters were also published by the faculty members.

Several faculty members of the University received various national and international honors and recognition. To name a few, Prof. (Dr.) S. C. Dash has been selected as the International Educational Ambassador by International Society of Nephrology, Dialysis and Kidney Transplantation; Dr. Ipseeta Satpathy was conferred Oxford Journal Distinguished Research Professor Award at Cambridge University London, UK; Dr. Tapas Ranjan Sahoo was selected for Erasmus Mundus Scholarship for advanced doctoral research at Politecnico di Torino, Italy; Prof. B.G. Mohapatra received an Award of Institution of Engineers, Bhubaneswar. Dr. Sadananda Memorial Gold Medal of the Institution of Engineers, Bhubaneswar was presented to Prof. A.K. Rath and Prof. D.K. Bera. Dr. Abhishek Kumar was conferred Asha Sablok Gold Medal by the Indian Economic Association. Prof. M.K. Das received Jagannath Pattnaik Memorial "Young Historian" Award from Odisha History Congress. Dr. Anil Kumar Dash was awarded a travel Fellowship for Advanced Ear Surgery by Indian Society of Otolaryngology.

The University organized more than 90 International and National seminars, conferences and workshops. To name a few: International Conference on Tribal People in the 21st Century : Problem and Prospect and Eradicating chronic poverty in Odisha : Policy issues and Challenges; 67th All India Commerce Conference; All India Seminar of Confederation of Indian Bar; Global Law firms Conclave; International Conference on Distributed Computing and Internet Technology; International Conference on Advanced Computing, Networking and Informatics; Indo- French workshop on Environment Biotechnology; International Conference on Translational Research, Biotechnology Industry Conclave; 83rd Annual Meeting of the Society of Biological Chemists (India). In addition, the University organized eight DST inspire programmes for school children.

During the past one year the University has signed 25 MoUs with many educational institutions, research labs and industrial establishments such as Mayo Clinic, USA; The University of Miami School of Law, Florida, USA; Murdoch University, Australia; Mongolian National University, Mongolia; Modern University for Humanities, Russia; University of Milano, Bicocca, Italy; Seoul University, South Korea; Hanseo University, Korea; S.V. National Institute of Technology (SVNIT); Metropolitan University, Prague, Czech Republic ; Castleton State College, Vermont, USA; San Beda College, Manila, Philippines; Hachinohe Gakuin University, Aomori, Japan.

Five of our Students from the School of Biotechnology received six months' training in different International Institutes like CSIRO- Australia, NIFES- Norway, University of Freiberg- Germany, University of Alto- Finland and EPFL, Switzerland. Many students and faculty members from various countries like France, U.S.A., Canada, Germany, Korea, Afghanistan, Kyrgyzstan, Turkey and Czech Republic visited our University. Our faculty members visited Sinap University, Kastamonu University and Dumlupinar University at Turkey under Mevelana Exchange programme. Our students visited Ataturk University, Turkey under student exchange programme. One faculty from USA visited our University under the Fulbright Fellowship Scheme. Students from Hanseo University also visited our University under student exchange programme.

It is with a feeling of great honor and pride I report to this august gathering that in recognition to the outstanding contribution towards the society and for providing free education to over 25000 underprivileged tribal children the Founder of KIIT University Dr. Achyuta Samanta was conferred various awards. He was awarded the 'Isa Award for Service to Humanity', top civilian award of the Kingdom of Bahrain; the prestigious GUSI Peace Prize International 2014; the President's Gold Medal 2014 from International Association of Knowledge, Moscow;

the highest Civilian Award 'Best Worker' by the Republic of Mongolia; Dr. Pinnamaneni and Seethadevi Foundation Award; the Hall of Fame Award at World CSR Congress, ET award and 'Think India Award' from Think Media Inc. He was awarded with Honorary Fellowship Award by Computer Society of India (CSI). In addition, Dr. Samanta was also conferred several Honorary doctorates by various International Universities.

The University has increased its infrastructure facilities like lecture halls, laboratories, hostels, sports and recreational facilities, guest house etc. The students are encouraged to participate in extra-curricular activities which run parallel to the academic programs. Addition of around one million square feet of quality built space which includes a state of art block for the School of Mechanical Engineering, two mega Boys' Hostels, expansion of School of Electronics Engineering, expansion in Hospital building, Sports Infrastructure including two swimming pools, three Auditoriums, Shopping Complex and food courts. A high rise smart Library building built in contemporary trends, is nearing completion. The construction for Architecture Block has also begun. The University has upgraded its library facilities and several new books, journals and e-resources have been added. Laboratories are renovated and upgraded on a regular basis and new advanced labs are also being set up. New canteens and food Courts have been opened in each campus. Conscious of its ambience, massive landscaping and horticulture activities were undertaken. As a part of our commitment to nature, Green Building Technologies have been adopted which includes Rain Water Harvesting, Sewage Treatment Plants, increase in green covers and creation of pedestrian trails. Education brings liberation. Rooted to our values our students are trained to fly high. With this concept the 'Wall of Kites', a kinesthetic wall of more than 600 colour coated zinc- alum kites fly outside this auditorium to celebrate the idea.

Academic initiatives have always been high in the priorities of the University. The University has introduced Tutor-Mentor System through which all the students are provided personalized counseling system to the students.

The syllabi are continuously updated and new courses added. Academic Council and the Boards of Studies have representations from industry in addition to the academicians from top academic institutions. The University has increased transparency in evaluation by introducing e-evaluation and making the evaluated answer papers available to the students.

Industry-Academia interaction is very strong in this University. The University has tied up with various industries like Microsoft IT Academy, Microsoft Edvantage Platinum, Cisco Network Academy, D-Link Network Academy, Red Hat Academy, IBM Academic Initiative, Oracle WDP, Adobe India Academy and has established various labs and centres of excellence. MOUs have been signed with Ericsson India Global Services Pvt Ltd and NI Systems (India) Pvt Ltd. SIDBI Innovation centre has been established. Industry experts regularly visit campus for delivering lectures and as advisors and members in various committees of the University.

Our University is committed to making the students' educational experience multifaceted and holistic. This commitment is very evident with world class sports facilities, holding sports meets, and encouraging and facilitating student participation in national and international level competitions. Events like NBA Basketball Tournament, All India BSNL Cricket Championship, Telegraph School Chess Tournament, All India Inter Zone Kabaddi (W) Tournament, All India University (D&N) T20 Cricket Tournament, Syed Mushtaq Ali All India Super League-cum-knock out Cricket Tournament, KIIT International Chess Festival were organized. Also ICC World Cup preview ceremony was held at KIIT Stadium by Reliance Communications.

Our students have participated in and received laurels in various competitions held across the country. TCS-100 best student award was bagged by Laxmi Chaudhary. Varinder Singh won the 1st prize in Indian parliament simulation, CII at Cochin, Kerala. Debjyoti Goswami,

Harsh and Team were awarded BRYAIR Awards at Mumbai. Sohom Dutta has been awarded the 2nd prize for his film on Child Labour and was felicitated by Hon'ble Governor of Odisha. Law School students won two National Moot Court Competitions in Osmania University and Banaras Hindu University. Tushar Kant Sahu was named All India best cadet (senior division), Indian Navy.

In the field of Sports, Dutee Chand won bronze medal in Asian Championship 2014-15. Amiya Mallick won medals in Athletics in Asian Championship-2015. Swayams Mishra got his 1st GM norm in 2014 in Chess. Aparajita Gochhikar participated in World Amateur Chess Championship held at Singapore. Ranjit Naik represented India in Archery in World Cup, Asian Championship & in TOP Scheme for Olympic- 2016 & 2020. Bhagyalaxmi Barik captained Odisha team that won Gold in the National Games -2015. Bhagyalaxmi Barik, Mirarani Hembram & Sanjukta Munda represented India in Asian Rugby Championship at Taiwan. Gita Bhoi has been selected to represent India to participate in Asian Softball Championship to be held at Taiwan during this month. Muna Murmu was part of India Team that participated in the Asian 15-A-Side Rugby Championship held at Tashkent, Uzbekistan. It has been possible to enjoin academic vibrancy with moral values and social commitment. The process of creating such conditions is on in KIIT where every member of the university community is motivated to prioritize collective interests and progressively work towards creating efficient systems. Our faculty is shaping their knowledge and skills to become a repository of creative genius and our students an infinite reservoir of potential talent and innovation. We take pride in stepping into an enviable position of excellence and feel confident that within next few years the pool of diverse and inquisitive students, the devoted faculty, staff and the alumni would work collectively towards building this educational institution as a 'World Class University'. An abiding faith in the progressive values nurtured by the university and self-belief would provide the right impetus to work collectively towards this goal.

The University takes its social responsibility very seriously and ensures that no qualified applicant is denied higher education for want of financial resources. We provide free education to students many of whom are tribal or hail from socially disadvantaged sections of the society. Free education is given not only to the students in social sciences but also to those in Engineering, Medicine, Law, Nursing, Biotechnology, and Management schools. The University has also instituted scholarships and fellowships for non-stipendiary M.Tech. and Ph.D. students. This is probably the only private university that has made so many efforts towards equity and provides this magnitude of financial support to its deserving students and research scholars.

Development of technically sound, trained, industry-ready manpower is one of the primary goals of a predominantly technological University like ours and its success is reflected in the job placements. The overall placement for the undergraduate engineering students across various types of industries including some of the very high-end ones has been very impressive. The University is proud of placing it on record that it has achieved more than 90% placement of 2015 passing out batch. More than 300 companies and organizations participated in the campus placement process. The highest salary package offered was INR 37 lakhs by Works Applications, a Japanese MNC and the average salary being Rs. 4.5 lakhs. Our students are also inclined towards entrepreneurship and are successful entrepreneurs in India and abroad. One of our law students, Nidhi Singh has been selected as 'Louis Dreyfus –Weidenfeld Scholar by Weidenfeld Hoffman Trust and University of Oxford. Sayantan Mukherjee was awarded research Fellowship by Plasma Research Institute, Bombay.

Dear graduands, I take this opportunity to congratulate you for successfully completing your courses from the KIIT University. I am quite confident that during your stay on the campus you have learned many things both in the class room and outside the class room that will be useful during your future life.

I am sure that you will continue to work ethically and in a disciplined fashion and will bring glory to yourself, your family and in turn to the KIIT University as you will be a KIITian throughout your life. We are proud of you and I know you are proud of KIIT. I wish each one of you all the success.

I congratulate the parents and the students who have been part of this function and received their degrees and medals of appreciation for their achievements. I am sure the junior batch of students would have drawn inspiration from the success stories of their seniors. I am certain that this would provide them an impetus in developing the positive sides of their personalities and contribute to the desired growth and development of this institution. Before I conclude, I would call upon you the recipients of degrees and distinction today, as you step out into the world, do not be content with the initial academic instruction that you have imbibed here. Always aim high and dream deep. All our dreams come true if we have courage to pursue them, if you believe in yourself and have the courage, the determination, the dedication, the competitive drive and if you are willing to sacrifice the little things in life and pay the price of the things that are worthwhile. you can achieve everything you dream for. You must remember that success is not final and failure is not forever.

Jai Hind



**MEDAL
WINNERS**