



सत्यमेव जयते

**SPEECH
OF
HIS EXCELLENCY**

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PVSM, UYSM, AVSM, VSM (RETD),**

GOVERNOR,

ARUNACHAL PRADESH

ON THE OCCASION OF

4TH CONVOCATION OF

**NORTH EASTERN REGIONAL INSTITUTE OF SCIENCE &
TECHNOLOGY (NERIST)**

AT

NERIST, NIRJULI

ON

ON 19TH APRIL, 2015

It is my proud privilege to be amongst you all in this 4th Convocation ceremony of NERIST, one of the premier technical institute of the region.

This is the occasion to congratulate the students who have been awarded with degrees. It marks a fulfilment of thin set of academic objectives. All the teachers, professors and academicians who worked tirelessly in assisting these students in pursuit of knowledge and success deserved to be lauded. I also felicitate the parents and well-wishers, who have supported the students throughout their journey. This day will be cherished for years to come, inspire the NERIST to attain newer goals and contribute positively towards nation building.

As the President of the NERIST society, I have seen this institution grow and its students constantly setting new examples of excellence in numerous platforms. It is indeed a matter of pride and satisfaction that the students, despite constraints of infrastructure and geographical remoteness, have excelled against all odds. They have competed and performed with the best talent pool drawn from some of the premier institutions of the country.

However, the journey doesn't and shouldn't stop here. We must not become complacent and content over what we have achieved over the years. Rather we all must set newer targets, create new benchmarks and provide fresh examples of performance, innovation, and excellence. The north eastern region in general has no dearth of talent and resources. The challenge, however, is to tap these resources and channelize the energy of **the youth towards developing through quality education.** In this regard, **NERIST can play a pivotal role of a facilitator to provide them with the avenues to prove their latent talents and thereby contribute for the well-being of the state and the country.**

The population of Europe and China is ageing and India will have more than half of the working population of the world. **This human resource can become a dividend if it is utilized properly. Otherwise it will become a liability to the country.** Hence, their skills need to be developed to make them employable. The teachers therefore, have an onerous responsibility to make the students aptly endowed with technical knowledge and skills so as to attain gainful employment / self employment.

Remember the NERIST has all that it takes to become a centre of excellence to do substantive and focused research in areas of the regional concerns. I am glad to state that our young scholar's, guided by the faculty are addressing these innovations related to the infrastructural development and its blending with nature. We have a long tradition of living in harmony with nature and our people, the people of North East India have been its protectors and devotees. We have always conserved nature, particularly in Arunachal Pradesh. Today we have 82% forest coverage, which accounts for 22% of the forest cover in the country.

Along with conservation of flora and fauna we want development. Development and environment protection can go hand in hand if you the young scientists and members of faculty explore innovative ways to address this issue. Removal of misconceptions prevailing in the society will pave ways for harnessing our hydropower potentials and developmental process reaching every corner of the State and region. NERIST is duty bound to carry out this obligation.

Dear esteemed members of faculty and NERIST Society, we must all be geared up to face the challenges of the day. We must strive hard and work relentlessly towards fulfilling our goals and mission. Knowledge and innovation are the keystones of progress. **Need of the hour is to develop a scientific temperament and apply it to the issues of development at hand.** Competition and building strong linkages with industries with eco-friendly approach is a must. For this we need to introspect and take stock of what we have already achieved and what we can do to further to best utilize our potential. The young minds can show us the way. Together with the experience of the old, we can move ahead and carve a better future for the generations to come.

This institute is the first of its kind in the country to have started its academic structure with a modular pattern of education. The aim of such a pattern is to impart skill-based education to the students with multiple entries and multiple exit option to different modules. The success of this pattern can be gauged through its alumni who have made their mark in different countries and organizations as well as replication of the model by several other premier institutes of the country.

NERIST has also rendered consultancy services and provided vital inputs to numerous infrastructure projects in the North East, especially in Arunachal Pradesh, in such diverse and critical sectors as Highways, Buildings, Industry, telecom, mining and food processing etc.

Established as a project of the North Eastern Council in 1984, NERIST has traversed a long distance to attain the status of a Deemed University in 2005. Technical education has however come to Arunachal Pradesh in the last three decades. NERIST was established in 1984 and the NIT in 2010. We are grateful that now the HRD Ministry has sanctioned a technical college, which is coming up at Toru in Papum Pare district.

In this State, due to traditional and social practices, **girl education is another challenge.** The State Government is addressing it to some extent. Some dedicated institutes like Ramakrishna Sarada Mission School, Jawahar Novodaya Vidyalayas and Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalayas are providing much needed education in the rural areas, but we have miles to go.

I am aware that large number of students from Arunachal Pradesh are going to various parts of the country for pursuing higher studies, particularly in metropolitan cities. As a guardian of those students, I would like to see **special provisions such as assistance during admissions, hostel accommodation, scholarships, timely response and guidance.**

I would also like to emphasise on improving the teacher-student ration in Arunachal Pradesh. The total enrolment in Higher Education in the State is 33,578 with overall Teacher Students Ratio of 1:48, which is very high according to University Grant Commission and Rashtriya Uchchatar Shiksha Abhiyan directives. **We need to have more teachers.** I would also like to suggest for exchange programme for teachers or some teachers from reputed institutes be deputed to teach in Arunachal Pradesh with suitable incentives. This to my mind **is vital to upgrade the quality of education in the region.**

Let me now conclude by wishing the graduates once again a bright and rewarding future. **Always strive for the best, as there is little place for mediocrity.** May the Almighty bless you all with success and fulfilment of your cherished ambitions. And may you contribute greatly to the rapid socio-economic development of the State and our great Nation.

I part with a quotation of Swami Vivekananda. He said and I quote, **'Go on bravely. Do not expect success in a day or a year. Always hold on to the highest. Be steady. Avoid jealousy and selfishness. Be obedient and eternally faithful to the cause of truth, humanity, and your country, and you will move the world.** Remember it is the person, the life, which is the secret of power, nothing else

Godspeed and Good luck.

Ladies and Gentlemen thank you very much for your attention.

JAI HIND.