



**SPEECH
OF**

**HIS EXCELLENCY
GEN JJ SINGH, PVSM, AVSM, VSM (Retd),
GOVERNOR of ARUNACHAL PRADESH**

**ON
THE OCCASION
OF
SILVER JUBILEE CELEBRATION**

**OF
NERIST, NIRJULI**

**ON
4th MARCH 2009**

Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is with great pleasure that I extend my warm greetings and congratulations to the director, members of faculties, the students and alumni of the North Eastern Regional Institute of Science and Technology, Nirjuli on the special occasion of its Silver Jubilee celebration today. This day reminds us of the auspicious occasion twenty-five years ago, when the then President of India Late Giani Zail Singh laid the foundation stone of this esteemed Institution, marking the glorious journey of this premier center for technical education of the north east region.

The institution, which started as a very unique experiment in the area of technical education has excelled in the recent years and has become a role model for many other technical institutions operating throughout the country. I am told that NERIST has produced highly qualified professionals which are not only serving the country but also have found place in the leading multinational companies throughout the world. We take great pride in the outstanding achievements of our NERIST alumni and we look forward to see that the tradition continues. This is, of course is the result of hardworking and dedicated faculties, staff

and other stakeholders of the institute along with the dynamic leadership shown by the successive directors. I am also very happy that good campus environment has always been associated with the institution.

In recent times, the nature of higher education has changed rapidly, not only due to the globalization of our endeavours, but also as students recognize the importance of upgrading skills and capabilities, expanding knowledge and enhancing career prospects. I am very happy to note here that NERIST has kept pace with this evolution and consistently imparted accurate, up-to-date education and support to its students.

Ladies and Gentlemen, education has always been upheld in our society as perhaps one of the most important aspects in life. Therefore, promoting excellence and providing greater access to all students and research scholars have been the guiding principles of our new initiatives. In its effort to promote science and technology in the region and also to provide training to the students for generating efficient technical and scientific manpower in different disciplines with particular reference to the special needs of the North Eastern states, I am pleased that the NERIST envisages to start new courses such as Food

technology, Chemical Engineering, Information Technology at Diploma and Degree levels, besides some Post Graduate programmes in emerging areas.

Today, investment in education, in skill building, and in improving capabilities of our young people is the most important way in which we can build a new North East region, symbolized by peace, prosperity and people's empowerment. I want each and every one of you, especially students and alumni to come forward and participate in this grand endeavour.

When we do not invest in the capabilities of our people they can become a social and economic liability. But when we do invest they then become a great asset, an asset for their family, an asset for society at large, an asset for our country and an asset for all humanity. I would like the young people of North East region to be empowered educationally, socially and economically so that they can contribute their share to the future of the Region and in the building of our country as a whole. In such noble venture, I am sure the North Eastern Institute of Science and Technology, Nirjuli will be stand out as a shining star in the eastern horizon.

My young friends, I would like to urge upon you to raise your sights higher and think into the future and ask

what is it that we must do to bring prosperity to the region and to the country. As a person, imbibe the values and skills, be an important partner and contributor in the nation building. Lend your hands in the concerted effort of the government to eradication of illiteracy, poverty and inequality in the region.

Before I conclude my speech, I would also like to take this opportunity to express my continued support to the institution for a better tomorrow of the whole NE region and the country.

I join with all Arunachalees in extending our greetings and best wishes to students, members of the faculties and alumni of North Eastern Regional Institute of Science and Technology, Nirjuli for a grand silver jubilee celebration.

Jai Arunachal, Jai Hind.