

**SPEECH OF THE HON'BLE GOVERNOR FOR THE 4th CONVOCATION
OF NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF PHARMACEUTICAL EDUCATION AND
RESEARCH (NIPER)**

Namaskar,

Secretary Dept of Pharmaceuticals Govt India, Respected Aparna ji, Chairman Board of Governors and Director Council of Scientific and Industrial Research, IICT Hyderabad Dr Chandrasekhar ji, Director NIPER Guwahati Dr USN Murty ji, other members of the governing board, Senate, APDC, faculty, staff, students and their parents. I am very pleased to be with you on this auspicious occasion of the 4th Convocation of NIPER-Guwahati.

I feel this convocation is indeed a historic occasion as it is being celebrated for the first time in the permanent campus of NIPER-Guwahati, located between IIT and AIIMS-Guwahati. On this occasion I also hail the commitment of USN Murty, Director, NIPER-Guwahati, for his dream, vision and dedication.

Dear Friends,

NIPER which is the first national Pharmaceutical institute in the entire North East is blessed to have situated on a region of immense ecological and ethno-cultural diversity. In this backdrop, this institute should take the lead in creating excellent

human resources to harness the verdant natural resources of the region.

Today, as NIPER celebrates its 4th Convocation, I congratulate all the 140 graduates including 5 Ph.D., holders who have undoubtedly worked with dedication and sincerity to attain their degrees. Convocation is a day to celebrate the academic success of students. It is by means of attaining their degrees that the students will be able to seek employment and serve the society at large. It is my hope that all of you who have come here to celebrate your success which I am sure will use your wisdom and expertise not only for serving your needs, but the need of the community as a whole. Education without social commitment is no education at all. If it cannot make a difference to the lives of those who are in need, it cannot be of much value whatsoever.

Dear Students,

In the US, Convocation is called Commencement because you are commencing your journey of translating your education to the benefit of the Nation. May every one of you realize your potential fully to make this country a better place for all of us. You have received an excellent education and knowledge in terms of pharmacy education from your professors. But still, today I

take the privilege in speaking on the forgotten history and principles of our Indian traditional medicine.

As you may know, Ayurveda is considered as one of the oldest of the traditional systems of medicine accepted worldwide. However, the ancient wisdom in this traditional system of medicine is still not fully explored. The junction of the rich knowledge from different traditional systems of medicine can lead to new avenues in herbal drug discovery process. Lack of understanding of the differences and similarities between the theoretical doctrines of these systems is the major hurdle towards their convergence.

Knowledge of systems from different ethnic origins would bring about interchange of knowledge and increase the understanding of different systems. This can ultimately contribute to integration and advancement of herbal drug research when accompanied by collaborative work of researchers from different countries. These futuristic goals can be accomplished only when one gains insights about the systems, and works upon strengthening the common aspects between various traditional systems of medicine.

Dear Friends,

India has a rich history of traditional system of medicine based upon six systems, out of which Ayurveda stands to be the most ancient, most widely accepted, practiced, and flourished system of medicine. Ayurveda is the most dominant system amongst the other Indian systems of medicine and finds its prevalence globally since centuries. After Ayurveda, the Siddha, Homeopathy and Unani system of medicine are widely used. Naturopathy is still developing and in future it may emerge as a flourished system of medicine. Yoga, is a system of allied medicine that deals with physical, mental and spiritual state of an individual. Ayurveda has a rich history. However, there were certain drawbacks in approaches towards it, which inhibited its growth unlike the western system of medicine.

Dear Students,

Now, let me suggest a few things that you can help to make our Nation stronger and richer. You must develop high aspirations in medicines of public interest. You must aspire that India becomes one of the best economies in the pharmaceutical sector of the world by virtue of its fairness, transparency and

accountability. This will not happen by mere speeches alone. Your commitment to your profession and your ability to translate your aspirations to actions will do the wonder.

I also do want you to remember that performance leads to recognition. Recognition leads to respect. Respect leads to power. Therefore, my dear friends, there is only one way to make India a powerful nation. That is through your performance alone. Aspirational performance requires that you create aspirational targets in an honest and disciplined manner to achieve your targets. Remember that discipline, speed of decision making, and velocity of action are necessary attributes for high performance.

Dear students, it is also important to set high standard for yourselves. Once you start benchmarking and competing with the global best, the next step for you is to aim to be the leader there. You become a leader by creating a set of next practices. Next practices will lead you to innovation.

You all know, success of an educational institution depends on the quality of students it produces and the quality of research and development works performed by the faculty members. The

alumni carry the shining example of an institution by excelling in their respective fields and serving the society with distinction, dedication, and devotion. I am sure, our young students receiving commendation will rise up to the expectation of their parents, teachers and their alma mater and the expectations of each one of us.

Remember the words of John F. Kennedy who once said that a society, that cannot help many who are poor, cannot save the few who are rich. Your betterment lies in the betterment of the entire society. Therefore, please contribute to bring smile to the poorer sections of the society with your knowledge and strength.

I once again, congratulate the recipients of degrees and medals and wish you a great future ahead, a future that is full of dedicated service to the community and the nation.

Namaskar.

JAI HIND!