## Speech of the Hon'ble Governor of Assam and the Visitor of The Assam Royal Global University on the occasion of First Convocation of the University on 30<sup>th</sup> March, 2022

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- Guest of Honour, Professor Yogesh Singh, Vice Chancellor, Delhi University,
- Dr. A K Pansari, Chancellor, The Assam Royal Global University,
- Sri A K Modi, Pro Chancellor,
- Prof. S. P. Singh, Vice-Chancellor,
- Executive Vice President, Sri Ankur Pansari,
- Prof. M.K.Chaudhuri, Chief Advisor,
- Prof. Alak Kumar Buragohain, Chairperson Academic,
- Members of Gyan Sagar Foundation,
- Members of the Governing Body, Board of Management, and the Academic Council of the University,
- Registrar of the University,
- Other senior officials of the University,
- Dignitaries,
- Invited guests,
- Deans of Schools,
- Heads of Departments,
- Faculty & staff members,

- My dear students and their guardians,
- Ladies and gentlemen,

It is indeed my privilege to be here at Royal Global University. This is one of those blessed sites that symbolise the picture of 'New Assam'. This is the place that infuses new energy in our life. It is really a happy moment for the University to hold its first convocation and confer degrees and diplomas upon its students.

A convocation is a culmination of a journey as well as a moment of accomplishment for a university, its students, professors and teachers, administrators, parent body and others who are part of the university community. Dear students, it is also an occasion for you to introspect and ponder over the value of such degrees and diplomas for addressing the challenges of the outside world. I offer my congratulations to all those student graduating today. This success is a result of your efforts, and also a tribute to the hard work and sacrifices of your professors and your parents and family members.

Dear students, when we consider the higher education scenario in the country, there are three indicators to note. First, there is a greater emphasis by the government and other stakeholders on making higher education inclusive. India has the world's third-largest education system. This also serves the world's largest youth population. India has made impressive gains in widening the higher education ecosystem. The very fact that many new institutions, including Central Universities, IITs and IIMs are being established in underserved locations, illustrates our commitment to taking higher education to the masses.

Secondly, expanding quantity has to be complemented by quality. This is where the greatest challenge exists. As technology advances and societies grapple with the implications of the Fourth Industrial Revolution, higher education has to adapt to new expectations. It has to be sensitive to inter-disciplinary and cross-disciplinary pathways without losing sight of the core of disciplinary knowledge.

The third factor is that of resources and their mobilisation. While there is tremendous thrust on the growing need of institutions of higher education, one must be alive to fiscal constraints. Therefore, without compromising on the integrity of academic endeavours, I would urge the educational institutions for partnerships with industry and other external institutions. It is necessary to promote a culture of entrepreneurship among students and researchers. There are ample case studies from university campuses across the world, and I am confident Assam Royal Global University too can march down this road.

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Dear students, it is heartening to see how Assam Royal Global University has evolved in its contribution towards quality education in Assam. I have witnessed that ever since its inception, this University has been striving to impart holistic education to the students. The University has created a conducive learning environment for this, where students from across North-Eastern India are receiving all-inclusive education. I must appreciate the fact that the focus of the University is on research and development, multidisciplinary pedagogy along with a compulsory course on behavioural science for all students. I have also learnt that the university, although in its nascent phase, has made great progress in all spheres, be it the state-of-the-art infrastructure, the dedicated faculty members, course structure reflecting the modern day need and the plethora of co-curricular activities. I am happy to hear that the University recently hosted four inter-university Zonal, and all India sport events on the campus.

I am also happy that the university has displayed its resilience during the disruptive COVID 19 pandemic, by continuing its academic activities by means of digital technology. I would like to congratulate the faculty and staff for taking prompt measures of adopting online methods of teachinglearning that has prevented precious academic loss of the students. It gives me great joy when I realize that the idea of the

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Royal Global University was driven by a spirit of Philanthropy and service to the people. This was evident in the manner the University went out of its way to convert a large part of its infrastructure into a COVID Care Centre during the COVID pandemic.

I must place my appreciation for the faculty and its management led by chancellor of the University, Dr. A.K.Pansari for transforming the University into an excellent centre for higher education. I am confident that your indomitable spirit and pursuit for excellence shall make the University reach towering heights. Though relatively young, your University has already made a mark in this region.

Dear students, you must carefully reckon that this convocation is not merely an occasion to hand over degrees to you. It has also entrusted upon you the most challenging responsibility of continuing this path of knowledge and contribute selflessly to the progress of the nation as a whole.

It is really great that you have acquired your formal degrees today. But your real journey starts only from this moment. Your degrees have laid more responsibilities on you. From now on, you are in a better position to

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carry out the pursuit of knowledge; and this may be possible only when you stretch your helping hands to others who are less fortunate than you.

I would like to end by quoting Mahatma Gandhi. He once said "Be the change that you wish to see in this world." So, I say to you all, lead the world, be the change and make Assam and India proud.

I once again wish the graduating students all the very best for a healthy, happy, peaceful and successful career ahead.

Thank you,

## Jai Hind!