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## CONVOCATION

# Symbiosis Skills and Professional University

Pune, Maharashtra

28 September, 2024

**Namaskar!**

**Warm greetings:**

- Hon'ble Chancellor, Dr. S. B. Mujumdar
- Pro-Chancellor Dr. Swati Mujumdar
- Vice Chancellor Dr. Rajesh Ingle
- Chairman, Force Motors Dr. Abhay Firodia
- Esteemed faculty members, Dear parents and proud graduates

A very good morning to everyone present here today. It is truly an honor and privilege to be standing before you on this momentous occasion—the 5th Convocation Ceremony of Symbiosis Skills and Professional University, Pune. This day marks a significant milestone in the lives of all the graduates, a moment you have long awaited and worked diligently to achieve. I extend my heartiest congratulations to each and every one of you—graduates, faculty, and the proud families—for this remarkable achievement.

To the graduates, today is not just the culmination of your years of hard work, dedication, and perseverance but the

beginning of a new chapter in your lives. You have equipped yourselves with knowledge and skills that will be your compass as you navigate the future. You now possess the power to contribute meaningfully to society, to innovate, and to lead. Each one of you is ready to take on the world, and I have no doubt that you will continue to make this institution, your families, and your nation proud.

I would also like to extend my heartfelt gratitude and congratulations to the teachers and mentors who have been the guiding light throughout this journey. Your efforts in shaping the minds of these young individuals are commendable, and you have played a pivotal role in their success. It is your vision, dedication, and passion for education that have enabled these graduates to reach this pinnacle today.

To the parents and families of the graduates, this day belongs to you as well. Your unwavering support, encouragement, and sacrifices have played an essential role in the success of these young achievers. You believed in their dreams, and today, those dreams have turned into reality.





## The Importance of Skilling in Today's World

Graduates, you are entering the professional world at a time when the global landscape is changing rapidly. Technology is advancing at an unprecedented pace, industries are evolving, and the demand for skilled professionals is growing stronger by the day. In such a dynamic environment, skilling is no longer a mere option; it has become a necessity.

Our Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi Ji said, "Skill development is one of the highest priorities of the Government, and we have to focus on improving skills to ensure that every youth of this country is employable and contributes to India's growth." This vision, shared by our nation's leadership, places skill at the forefront of India's economic and social progress.

In today's competitive world, mere academic knowledge is not sufficient. What sets you apart and drives your success is the combination of knowledge and practical skills. Skilling bridges the gap between theoretical learning and real-world application. It ensures that you are not just job seekers but job creators, innovators, and contributors to society's development.

We are living in a time when industries are demanding specific competencies and technical expertise. Be it artificial

intelligence, data science, healthcare, manufacturing, or any other sector, skilling is the key that opens doors to opportunities. You must continuously upgrade your skills, learn new technologies, and adapt to the ever-changing demands of the marketplace.

## AICTE's Role in Skilling the Nation

At the All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE), we recognize the transformative power of skilling, and we are fully committed to empowering the youth of India with the skills they need to thrive in the 21st century. We believe in creating a strong ecosystem for skill development by offering various initiatives that cater to students, teachers, and professionals alike.

One of our flagship programs is the National Educational Alliance for Technology (NEAT), which is aimed at leveraging technology to enhance learning outcomes and bridge the digital divide. Through NEAT, we have collaborated with numerous EdTech companies to provide skilling resources to students and educators across the country. This platform offers courses in emerging technologies such as AI, IoT, robotics, and cloud computing, ensuring that students are equipped with the skills of tomorrow.

AICTE collaborates with industry leaders to design updated curriculum that meet industry needs and create opportunities for students to gain practical exposure through internships, apprenticeships, and industry projects. Through various collaborations AICTE ensures that our students are equipped with necessary and relevant skills and moreover get internships and job opportunities in big companies and industries.

I would like to highlight that very recently, AICTE has launched a virtual internship program in partnership with **Wadhvani Foundation, Ansys, and Midas Research and Development Centre**, this initiative aims to provide over **2,00,000 virtual internships**. These internships will enable students to gain hands-on experience in various technological fields, helping them become job-ready by exposing them to real-world industry problems.

Moreover, through AICTE's Career Portal, Placement Portal, and Internship Portal, we are committed to ensuring that our students receive the maximum exposure to industry opportunities and professional environments. These platforms serve as bridges between academia and the corporate world, enabling students to secure internships, placements, and hands-on training with leading companies.

By facilitating direct interaction with industry professionals, we aim to equip

students with practical knowledge, enhance their employability, and foster a culture of continuous learning and development. These portals are designed to provide students with the right resources, ensuring that they not only succeed in their careers but also contribute meaningfully to the growth of the nation.

## AICTE Proficiency Scheme

“A Scheme for Professional Advancement and Skill Upgradation, aims to facilitate the upgradation of knowledge and skills for individuals across various sectors, including working professionals, homemakers, students, and anyone keen on enhancing their competencies. This initiative is in alignment with the objectives of the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020, which emphasizes skilling, upskilling, and lifelong learning, a multidisciplinary approach, multiple entry and exit options (MEME), and the accumulation of credits.

Through the AICTE-IDEA Lab initiative, we are promoting creativity and innovation in students by providing hands-on experience with industry tools and techniques. These labs foster a culture of problem-solving and innovation, encouraging students to develop solutions that can address real-world challenges.

Further, AICTE is actively promoting the Vocational Education and Training





(VET) model, encouraging institutions like Symbiosis Skills and Professional University to integrate vocational training into their curricula. This will ensure that students not only gain academic knowledge but also hands-on experience, making them more competitive in the global job market.

We are also working towards teacher skills, ensuring that faculty members in technical institutions receive the necessary training to keep pace with modern educational practices and technological advancements. Well-skilled educators are crucial to creating an environment that fosters creativity, critical thinking, and innovation among students.

Graduates, as you step out into the world today, remember that this is just the beginning. The skills you have acquired will empower you to face the challenges of tomorrow. However, the learning must never stop. Keep sharpening your skills, remain curious, and embrace lifelong learning.

Skilling is not just about gaining expertise in a specific field; it is about preparing yourselves to adapt to new technologies, new industries, and new ways of working. It is about building resilience, innovation, and the capability to navigate the uncertainties of the future.

The Fourth Industrial Revolution is upon us, and with it comes the convergence of physical, digital, and biological systems. This is the time to embrace these changes and equip yourselves with the skills needed for Industry 4.0. Be it through AI, data analytics, blockchain, or sustainable technologies—skilling will open doors to countless opportunities and shape the future of our nation.

As I conclude, I would like to leave you with one thought: Skilling is not a destination but a journey. It is a journey of growth, learning, and self-discovery. With every new skill you acquire, you move one step closer to achieving your dreams and contributing to the progress of this great nation.

On behalf of AICTE, I once again congratulate all the graduates, faculty, and families. May you go forward with confidence, purpose, and the determination to make a difference in the world. Remember the values of dedication, discipline, and compassion that have been instilled in you throughout your time at Symbiosis Skills and Professional University.

I wish you all the success in your future endeavors. The world is waiting for your talents, skills, and innovations. Go out and make it a better place!

**Thank you, and Jai Hind!**

