

CONVOCATION

College of Engineering

Trivandrum, Kerala

01 March, 2024

Namaskar!

Warm greetings to:

- Principal Dr. Xavier J S
- Deans, faculty members, and the graduating students of this prestigious institution.

I am truly honored to be here in Trivandrum to attend the Convocation of the College of Engineering. First and foremost, I would like to extend my heartfelt congratulations to the graduates of Research, M.Tech, and B.Tech programs, who stand on the threshold of a new chapter in their lives, filled with exciting challenges and numerous opportunities for success. Today marks an important milestone in your journey, one that will propel both your personal and professional growth to new heights.

Dear graduates, let this day not be seen as the conclusion of your academic pursuits. Instead, think of this moment as the beginning of an exciting journey where your learning, growth, and exploration will continue. From this day forward, keep your minds and hearts open to new ideas, experiences, and innovations. We are living

in the Amrit Kaal, a time that presents an exceptional opportunity for you to leap ahead in your careers. Engage in critical thinking, upskill and reskill with emerging technologies, and make your mark in this rapidly evolving world.

In today's fast-paced world, every challenge is an opportunity for growth and innovation. As graduates of the College of Engineering, you possess the knowledge, skills, and ethical foundation necessary to navigate the complexities of the global landscape. AI and other transformative technologies are shaping the future, and while they bring tremendous potential, they also raise concerns about job security and societal impact. However, I urge you not to fear change but to embrace it. Adaptation and continuous learning will ensure your success and sustainability in this ever-changing world.

It is equally important to develop humane skills alongside your technical expertise. I would like to highlight AICTE's initiatives, such as courses in emerging fields like Artificial Intelligence (AI), Internet of Things (IoT), Blockchain, Robotics, Quantum Computing, and Data Sciences. These

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courses are designed to equip students and faculty with the digital skills necessary to thrive in the demands of the 21st-century economy, improving employability and global competitiveness.

As we dive into the realm of emerging technologies, we must not lose sight of the importance of human values, emotional intelligence, and social well-being. While machines excel at processing data and recognizing patterns, they cannot replicate our innate abilities such as empathy, creativity, and critical thinking. In light of this, AICTE has introduced a Minor Degree in Universal Human Values (UHV), aimed at cultivating leaders who possess both technical expertise and a compassionate worldview. This program strives to promote value-based living and ethical leadership among tomorrow's educators, policymakers, and professionals.

The youth of India have the potential to propel our nation to new heights. Over the years, India has made remarkable strides in many sectors, with digital transformation playing a crucial role in our progress. Initiatives like the Aadhaar card, CoWIN platform, and UPI system highlight India's digital leadership on the global stage.

Under the visionary leadership of Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, India has emerged as the third-largest startup ecosystem in the world. This success is fueled by government support, access to funding, a dynamic tech landscape, and a young, tech-savvy population. To continue fostering innovation, it is essential to nurture a culture of entrepreneurship and innovation within our educational institutions. By doing so, we create an environment that attracts investors and venture capitalists, thus ensuring sustainable growth and job creation.

To further strengthen this ecosystem, AICTE has launched the 'Ministry of Education-AICTE Investor Network,' in collaboration with the Ministry of Education's Innovation Cell. This platform is dedicated to providing crucial financial support, mentorship, and guidance to early-stage startups led by students and faculty, aligning with the Prime Minister's vision of creating a vibrant innovation ecosystem in India.

AICTE also organizes hackathons like the Smart India Hackathon and Innovation, Design, and Entrepreneurship (IDE) boot camps to cultivate innovative skills among youth. Recently, the Hon'ble Prime Minister inaugurated AICTE's first Indovation Centre and AICTE Training and Learning (ATAL) Academy in Jaipur, both aimed at boosting the startup culture among the youth.

I encourage all of you to push your limits, adapt to the changes brought about by emerging technologies, and transform your mindset from job seekers to job creators. Remember, your role as future engineers will shape the future of our nation. Whether you are developing groundbreaking technologies, building sustainable infrastructures, or driving industry revolutions, let your work be a testament to your passion and commitment to excellence.

In this ever-evolving landscape, technology will play an essential role in every profession. As engineers, you are poised to solve complex problems, innovate, and create solutions that will impact the world positively. I urge you to consider the greater good in your endeavors, using your skills to contribute to society's betterment.

The opportunities before you are vast. Take this moment to reflect on your accomplishments and celebrate with your loved ones, faculty, and mentors, whose

support and encouragement have been integral to your success. As you embark on your journey ahead, dare to dream, strive for excellence, and always remember the values instilled in you here.

Once again, congratulations to each of you. I wish you all the best of health and success in your future endeavors.

Thank you, and Jai Hind!

Watch the full video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8dzIEDOnxE>

