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18 - 19 November, 2023 | 2



## CONVOCATION

# Manipal Academy of Higher Education (MAHE)

**Karnataka**

25 November, 2023

Namaskara. Good morning to you all. Before I begin my convocation speech, let me offer my humble tributes to the late Dr. T. M. A. Pai, who had the vision of making our society rid of illiteracy, ill-health and poverty. He was a well-known physician, educationist, banker and philanthropist. He was well-known for building the university town of Manipal and created a medical college as early as in 1953—India's first-ever non-missionary self-financing private medical college.

Dr. Ramdas Madhav Pai, Chancellor of Manipal Academy of Higher Education, Dr. Ranjan Pai, Chancellor, Dr. Hebri Subhaskrishna Ballal, Pro chancellor; Lt. Gen. (Dr.) M. D. Venkatesh Vice-Chancellor, Pro-vice chancellors, IDr. P. Giridhar Kini, Registrar, and all present here— it is my great pleasure to be here as the chief guest on the 31st convocation of MAHE (Deemed to be University u/s 3 of UGC Act 1956). The Manipal Group is truly a pioneer in higher education services with more than six decades of experience in excellence. Manipal Group owns and operates campuses in different states of India -Sikkim, Jaipur,

Jamshedpur, Bangalore and internationally also—Melaka in Malaysia, and Antigua in the Caribbean. I am happy to know that MAHE has introduced innovative pedagogy and has created an ecosystem of teaching and research excellence by providing a culture of research and innovation, hands-on learning experience, exposure to diverse disciplines and cultures, and nurturing entrepreneurs and ideas along with skill development to Enhance employability. The institute has an alma mater with some of the most eminent people in the technology area.

As we all know that we are living in exciting times in this Digital Era. World is fast changing with disruptive innovations impacting every sphere of our lives. Education sector is no exception too. Implementation of NEP 2020 has given impetus to the education sector and will boost activities in the higher education sector. Research and innovation are two closely related concepts that play a critical role in driving progress and advancement in various fields. A multidisciplinary approach as emphasized in NEP 2020 is very much needed. NEP 2020 is an agenda for “amrit



Shri Narendra Modi has emphasized the importance of India's future and aims to establish the country as a key partner in the global economy. India aspires to become a 5 trillion dollar economy (3rd largest economy of the world in next 5 years) in the near future. To reach this mark, it needs to evolve systems and mechanisms to convert the present demographic dividend into high quality technical human resource, capable of doing cutting edge research and innovation, and deep-tech entrepreneurship.

Promoting Innovation through R&D will help to develop new products and services that drive growth, create jobs, and improve the national welfare. Research and development (R&D) is the backbone of a globally competitive, knowledge-driven economy. Investing in research and development ensures high market participation. This vision is propelled by several advantages that India possesses, making it a promising destination for innovation and production. Innovation rules the future of work in all sectors in the next decade.

Moreover, Skill-based learning has become a necessity today as we live in an era of unprecedented transformation. The advent

of new technology has led us into a growth-driven era full of opportunities but are we ready to capitalize on this?

We need both knowledge creation and also impart high end future skills at our universities. Of late, there have been attempts to transform the traditional higher education system into a skill-based one. The National Education Policy 2020 emphasizes practical, hands-on skilling rather than classroom-based learning. A decade ago, India was grappling with challenges like unemployment and graduates who are unemployable and lack soft skills. Today, skilling is being done when in colleges through internships, NEAT programmes to help students acquire required skill sets. What we need is to understand the difference between skill-based and knowledge-based education. The latter involves understanding concepts whereas the former aims to channelise education into a practical form to find solutions. They are looking for talented people who can innovate, who are open to learning and re-learning, can apply their knowledge practically and will also upskill themselves. While our higher Education System is currently undergoing several changes, the growing need for



seamless coordination of a classroom-based curriculum and practical skills-based learning demands that our institutions and academicians begin designing a different kind of curriculum that focuses on research, development, and Innovation.

Being a chairman of AICTE, I would like to highlight that AICTE has put in place several initiatives in the last three years to bring about changes in the Approval Process by introducing greater transparency and accountability through e-governance. AICTE has changed to be a true facilitator and enabler in addition to fulfilling the regulatory provisions. AICTE has more than 3600 engineering colleges with 1 million engineers passing out compared to 15700 graduates from all 23 IIT's. Research and innovation work has taken roots in our colleges. Chandrayan 3 launching has clearly shown that our students can be trained and placed to do top jobs and innovate. At AICTE, our vision is to provide transformative education

to Indian students to create leaders and innovators, and generate new knowledge for a sustainable society. AICTE has a tremendous role to play as a partner of a new knowledge economy to inspire, create and move our society forward.

More than 1 million engineers graduate from AICTE institutions and they are the one changing the scenarios in India. AICTE has to play a bigger role-to build capacities of the technical and management institutions - Accreditations and ranking;- to make students Industry ready, increase placements, Increase internships. AICTE has developed a plan to Incorporate new areas like semiconductors, advanced telecommunications like 5G and beyond; PM GATI SHAKTI - logistics in academic programs; ATAL - teachers training, AICTE idea labs; AICTE digital skilling programmes.

Recently, the All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) has launched a Digital Skilling initiative to upskill 1 crore students







and faculty. The initiative aims to equip students and faculty with the necessary digital skills to adapt to the rapidly changing demands of the 21st-century economy. The initiative encompasses a range of online courses in programming, data analytics, artificial intelligence, and machine learning. These courses are meticulously designed to provide students with industry-relevant skills, thereby improving their employability and competitiveness in the job market. The Anuvadini Artificial Intelligence text, video, and voice translation tool is an innovative technology that has the potential to revolutionize the way Technical Education is delivered. This state-of-the-art tool employs advanced machine learning algorithms to provide real-time translation of text, video, and voice content. International cell has been created at AICTE. AICTE has also created its own space in the area of Indian Knowledge systems and brought universal human value courses to engineering and diploma students as part of the curriculum.

The Ministry's Innovation Council at AICTE has nurtured innovation and startups at Institutions.

Swami Vivekananda, in his famous speech at the World Parliament of Religions in Chicago in 1893, he said, "Education is the manifestation of the perfection already in man." He believed that every individual has the potential to achieve greatness and become a better version of themselves through education and skill development. Vivekananda also emphasized the importance of vocational education and training, stating that it is necessary for individuals to develop practical skills in order to lead a successful and fulfilling life. He believed that everyone should have the opportunity to learn a trade or skill that they can use to earn a living and contribute to society. He encouraged individuals to take advantage of opportunities to learn and develop their skills, so they can make a positive impact in their communities and the world.

Here at MAHE, We have gathered to celebrate the culmination of years of hard work and dedication by the graduates. As you look back on your time at MAHE, I hope you have fond memories of the friends you made, the knowledge you gained, and the experiences that have shaped you into the person you are today. As you leave this institution and embark on the next phase of your journey, I encourage you to take with you the lessons and skills you have learned here. The education you have received here will be invaluable as you pursue your dreams and aspirations. Remember, the skills and knowledge you have acquired at MAHE are only the foundation for your future. Keep learning and growing, both professionally and personally. The world is constantly changing and evolving, and it is up to you to stay ahead of the curve. In addition to your education, I also hope that your time at the institutions has instilled in you a sense of social responsibility and a desire to give back to your community. As graduates of this esteemed institution,

you have a duty to use your skills and knowledge to make a positive impact in the world.

Life is much more than just material wealth and possessions. It's about creating meaningful relationships, pursuing your passions and interests, making a positive impact in the world, and finding happiness and fulfillment in life's journey. Regardless of one's financial situation, the most valuable things in life are the memories, experiences, and relationships we build along the way.

In conclusion, I would like to once again offer my heartfelt congratulations to the graduating students. May the skills and knowledge you have acquired here serve you well as you embark on your next adventure. I wish you all the best as you continue to learn, grow, and make your mark on the world.

**Thank you. Jai Bharat. Jai Hind.**

**Watch full video:** <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xqUDICOGNPY>

