



Centurion
UNIVERSITY

*Shaping Lives...
Empowering Communities...*

CENTURION UNIVERSITY

5th
Convocation
2017

Address of His Excellency,

Dr. S. C. Jamir

the Governor of Odisha
and Visitor of the Centurion University

11 December 2017

CENTURION UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY & MANAGEMENT
PARALAKHEMUNDI, ODISHA.



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Chief Guest, Mr. Steve Herbert,

Former Minister, Skills and Training, Victoria, Australia,

Guest of Honour, Prof Ruth Wallace,

Director, Northern Institute,
Charles Darwin University, Australia,

President of the University, Prof. (Dr.) Mukti K. Mishra,

Vice President, Prof. D.N. Rao,

Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Haribandhu Panda,

Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Dr. Supriya Pattanayak,

**Members of Governing Board, Academic Council,
Deans,**

Registrar, Dr. Anita Patro,

Invitees, parents, Faculty Members,

Recipient of Degrees, Winners of Gold Medals,

Media persons, Ladies and Gentlemen

I am delighted to be with you for the 5th Convocation of Centurion University of Technology and Management. I am happy to celebrate the joy of the university as it sends out another batch of graduates to the service of the nation. It is a defining moment for the University and I congratulate the University on its achievement and success.

Let me at the outset convey my good wishes to Mr. Steve Herbert, who is the Chief Guest today and he has just delivered the fifth Convocation address. The key remarks that he made from his experience and observations as an administrator towards advancing the cause of skill integrated education in Australia would help our graduating students and faculty in drawing an impression on the growing importance of skills in the present day job market. Centurion University has the distinction of being the first Skill University of Odisha. The distinction is no doubt creditable but at the same time it is a huge responsibility to live up to expectation, set the standard and deliver the best. Mr. Herbert's findings and suggestions would certainly help the university to further the cause of skill development and skill integrated higher education. I am also equally happy to convey my good wishes to the Guest of Honour, Professor Ruth Wallace, a prominent name in Vocational Education and Training in Australia.

Convocation is a special occasion in the university calendar marked with celebration and triumph as students joyfully receive their degrees on successfully completing academic programmes. To the graduating students, this is your day and I am happy to congratulate you on your achievement. It is also a very proud moment for the parents and faculties who have all played their part in the end result. My congratulations to all of you.

Graduation often feels like the end of a chapter and in some ways it is. Dear students, but it is a wonderful moment when a world of possibility opens up before you. It is a

moment when everything is at your feet, with a plethora of choices trying to entice you. The opportunities open to you are unprecedented. More than ever, the world is full of opportunity for people who are prepared to take on difficult problems and develop innovative approaches and solutions.

Dear students, you are graduating at a time when the world is evolving faster and more significantly than ever. Who knows where you will be in a decade, but this is part of the opportunity. You are in a global environment, where anyone with a phone or tablet and an internet connection can communicate with almost anyone on the planet, contribute to change in almost any part of the globe and create a business that could become anything. A platform to create change exists and change is your responsibility.

The opportunity is yours to participate in creating a better future. At the end of the day, the key driver of success is not the field that you work in. It is only your commitment to whatever you do. Work hard, embrace and take full responsibility for your roles and give them everything you have and you will be rewarded.

You are the future leaders, the change-makers, and the problem solvers. The country needs you to be creative, adventurous and to see big problems as opportunities to solve. Famous Physicist Albert Einstein said that '**the true sign of intelligence is not knowledge, but imagination**'. You have been taught to think; you have been trained to create change; it is time for you to do- just imagine what you might achieve.

The 20th century saw the world changing but it seems rather slow compared to the speed, complexity and scale of now. There is more competition; the world is more uncertain, more subject to change. It is also more exciting, more global, entrepreneurial and full of twists and turns requiring you to consistently draw upon your capacity to learn and re-learn. Maybe even unlearn some things. I encourage you to leave today with a sense of purpose to make a difference, shape the curve and lead the way. You have the skills and knowledge and you would be looked at to make this world a decent and sustainable world. It is about a sense of possibility, daring and intellectual curiosity that you need to hold onto dearly as you move into your next challenge and do learn to embrace that word and all that it means. Be brave, take risks, gain experience - including excitement and frustration. It is all part of building yourself a destiny. I urge upon you not to be a job seeker only. Be a job creator too. I wish you all the very best.

We are living in a world transformed by technology. Scientific advances have changed and are changing our offices, our factories, our homes, schools and streets. The smartphone in pocket contains an advanced technology. The new computer models can now map the geography of our minds. Microscopic nanorobots can swim through our veins. Science fiction is turning into science fact.

Dear students, you are growing up at a time when technology is advancing so fast, just about anything you can imagine will likely exist in your lifetime, because you

will be able to create it, so be careful, and don't forget to be awesome. You will be the scientists, inventors and professionals of the 21st century and you will be the ones making the future happen.

The world today has moved from an industry-driven society to a knowledge-driven society, the nature of capital, resources, processes, structures, etc all underwent a redefinition. It is the knowledge and the people who are become critical in today's world. Since knowledge is the principal resource that the university creates and disseminates, its position in this new society becomes all the more important. The rise of new age organisations is clearly highlighting the importance of gaining a greater degree of understanding on what 'knowledge capital' means. Since people, knowledge, skills and entrepreneurship are going to play a key role in the functioning of the next society, universities need to change, turn entrepreneurial if they are to contribute and stay relevant in today's society. Universities must analyse the domains of knowledge imparted by them vis-a-vis marketable skills that blend with the corresponding domains.

Our Universities of Technology are integral component of our economy. They should continue to lead the way in terms of innovation and new discoveries in teaching and research. A relevant curriculum with leading teaching and learning practices define a quality institution. This is what will help to develop quality human resource and to support the realisation of our national goals. It lays great emphasis on producing individuals who are innovative, entrepreneurial, and can provide leadership in addressing

development challenges. To this end, universities should work closely with industry, professional and statutory bodies, national institutions and government agencies and universities abroad so that the education and research programmes are relevant to the national needs such as demand for renewable energy, countering climate change and many more and at the same time are benchmarked internationally. Our priority and effort should be in such a manner that the final product, our graduates remain attractive, competitive and sustainable for the employer who is interested in value addition. Our vision is two-fold: to offer a learning journey for all our youngsters to succeed in the globalised world and to enhance our human capital.

Research is a key aspect of university functioning. Amongst the huge range of prospects and opportunities for outstanding research it is for the University to identify focus areas. We have to encourage and support research that is driven by curiosity, by the sheer desire to understand – at the same time that we pursue discoveries that have immediate measurable impact. The University must ensure that it makes a real difference. Our teachers are required to do and conduct more research as it would keep them intellectually trim.

A researcher teacher can bring freshness and vitality in the knowledge he/she is expected to communicate to their students by connecting researches to teaching. I urge upon the teachers to be the drivers of change.

Centurion University has successfully moved from traditional pathway to applied action-learning with 'hands-on-knowledge', 'practice-linked pedagogy' and

'experience-based learning' while ensuring the eco-system is integrated, inclusive and aspirational. Looking at the needs of the country, I wish the University to strive hard, rise to the occasion and play its role to perfection in Skilling India. I wish the University to further consolidate its position as a pioneer in skill integrated higher education and further develop its unique educational ecosystem by creating viable social enterprises, both in rural and urban space with more determination. With these words, I wish students all success and the University to attain new heights in days ahead.

Jai Hind.

DR. S. C. JAMIR

Governor of Odisha

Dr. S. C. Jamir, son of Senayangba Head Dobashi of Mokokchung district, was born on October 17, 1931 at Ungma village.

He was appointed as the Governor of Goa on 17th July, 2004 and served in that capacity till July 2008. He held the additional charge of Maharashtra. He was then appointed as Governor of Maharashtra and sworn in on 9th March, 2008 and served till 22nd January, 2010. During this period, he held additional charge of Governor of Gujarat from 24th July, 2009 to 26th November, 2009.

In recognition of his distinguished public service Dr. Jamir was conferred with several awards prestigious such as Rashtriya Ekta Puraskar by the Committee for National Integration, National Citizen Award, "Arch of Asia" at Bangkok, Distinguished Leadership Award titled Man of the Year 1998 by the American Biographical Institute, USA. He was conferred Doctorate of Divinity (Hon Causa) by the University of Serampore, West Bengal and Doctor of Literature (Hon Causa) by Nagaland University.

The hallmark of Dr. S. C. Jamir's life has been his dedicated work for the unity and integrity of the country, peaceful solution of the Naga political problem with honour and dignity. His life was attempted four times by the anti-national elements for his steadfast stand for the unity and integrity of the country.

Dr. S. C. Jamir is married to Imkonglemla and now they have four children and twelve grand children. He is a forceful speaker, a prolific writer and above all a value based statesman. His hobby is reading books. He is a sports lover and even now he plays badminton.