

VEER SURENDRA SAI UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY, BURLA

VICE-CHANCELLOR'S ADDRESS

Prof. B.K. Nanda

Vice-Chancellor

His Excellency the Governor of Odisha and the Hon'ble Chancellor of Veer Surendra Sai University of Technology, Burla Dr. S.C. Jamir; esteemed Chief Guest Padmashree K. L. Chopra; Degree recipients; Medal Winners; Distinguished Invitees; Faculty members, Staff & Students of this University; Media Persons; Ladies and Gentlemen. It gives me immense pleasure to welcome you all for this glorious occasion of the 5th Convocation of our University.

I welcome His Excellency Dr. S.C. Jamir for his kind presence on this auspicious gathering. His Excellency is a man of vision and vast experience and is well known for his dedicated work for the unity and integrity of the country. He is a forceful speaker, a prolific writer, a sports lover and above all a value based statesman.

Dr. S. C. Jamir was one of the signatories to the historic Agreement which is popularly known as the 16th Point Agreement with the Government of India in 1960 that resulted in the creation of the State of Nagaland as the sixteenth State of the Indian Union. To him goes the distinction of being the first Member of Parliament from the State of Nagaland. He was appointed as Parliamentary Secretary to the First Prime Minister of India, Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru in 1962. Later he served India being Union Deputy Minister of Railways, Labour and Employment, Community Development, Food and Agriculture. In 1971, Dr. S. C. Jamir came back to state politics and served the people of Nagaland in different capacities. He was the Chief Minister of Nagaland five times, the longest in the history of Nagaland. Dr. S. C. Jamir is regarded as one of the architects of modern Nagaland for his outstanding contributions to the development of the State. He was appointed as the Governor of Goa on 17th July, 2004 and served in that capacity till July 2008. He also held the additional charge of Maharashtra during this period. 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. S. C. Jamir was conferred with several prestigious awards 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 by the University of Serampore, West Bengal and Doctor of Literature by Nagaland University.

Sir, we are extremely grateful that in spite of a busy schedule, you are present with us elevating the spirits of the young graduates as well as inspiring all of us congregated here. On behalf of the University I take this opportunity to extend a hearty welcome.

It is indeed a source of great joy and strength for all of us that we have in our midst a renowned scientist, a widely respected academician, a very popular educator of India and above all a visionary, Padma Shree Prof. K. L. Chopra.

Professor Chopra pursued studies in Physics at Delhi University to obtain BSc Hons. and MSc, and thereafter at University of British Columbia, Canada under World University Fellowship to earn a PhD degree. He served in several senior R&D positions for about 14 years at Canada, USA and Germany. He joined as Senior Professor, at IIT, Delhi in 1971. He has also been a Visiting Professor at Cornell and Northeastern Universities, USA in 1987. He was then offered the position of Director at IIT, Kharagpur where he served for two terms of ten years and revived the institute into a number one position among the IITs. His numerous innovations at IIT, Kharagpur are Vinod Gupta School of Management , S&T Park with faculty-held enterprises, Technology Foundation, Sanyal School of Telecommunications, Optical cable wired campus, Multi-crore Corpus Fund, e- Library, IIT Extension Centres at Kolkata and Bhubaneswar.

After retirement from Kharagpur, Prof Chopra occupied the newly created IREDA Chair at IIT Delhi. Presently, he is advisor/ consultant to several academic, government, and industrial organisations, besides being the President, Society for Scientific Values and Associate Editor of International Journal of Solar Energy Materials and Solar Cells.

Prof Chopra has supervised 60 PhD theses; published about 430 research papers; authored/edited 8 books. He holds 5 US patents and has transferred 8 know-hows to

the industry. Prof Chopra has lectured extensively in various international institutions and has also consulted various international and national industries in the areas of Thin Film S&T, Vacuum Science, Nanomaterials, Solar Energy, and Surface Engineering. He has received many national awards and recognised as one of the seven “most highly cited” scientists of India. The Institute of Scientific Information (ISI) of USA has conferred “Citation Laureate” award on him. UP Technical university has conferred an Honorary DSc, and the Government of India has conferred Padma Shree on Prof Chopra for his distinguished contributions to science and engineering.

Today is the proud day for this University when 522 numbers of students will be conferred with their Degrees in B.Tech., M.Tech. and MCA. My heartiest congratulations to all of them.

The 5th Convocation is taking place at a time when the University is keeping pace with new developments in the area of science and technology. I now take the liberty in presenting before you the achievements of this legendary University during last one year.

Vision

To emerge as an internationally acclaimed Technical University to impart futuristic technical education & creation of vibrant research enterprise that creates quality engineers and researchers, truly world class leaders and unleashes technological innovations to serve the global society with an aim to improve the quality of life.

Mission

VSS University of Technology strives to create values and ethics in its products by inculcating depth and intensity in its education standards and need based research through

- Participative learning in a cross-cultural environment that promotes the learning beyond the class room.
- Collaborative partnership with industries and academia within and outside the country in learning and research.
- Encouraging innovative research and consultancy through the active participation and involvement of all faculty members.
- Facilitating technology transfer, innovation and economic development to flow as natural results of research where ever appropriate.

- Expanding curricula as appropriate to include broader perspectives.
- Creation of service opportunity for the upliftment of the society at large

Broad Strategy

- Ensuring need based and world class course curriculum, effective teaching process and transparent evaluation system.
- Identifying and supporting fundamental and applied research that could benchmark as best in business.
- Encouraging members of the University to serve in the larger community not just as responsible citizens but as discipline and professional experts.
- Facilitate exchanges of students and faculty members with other universities to pursue research.
- Establishing partnership with progressive industries for addressing major industrial problems.
- Achieving financial self sufficiency through self sustaining courses and professional consultancy

Academic Programmes

The University has done a remarkable progress in this current academic session by increasing intake strength which is almost double than the previous strength. This year 978 students have taken admission in various B.Tech., M.Tech., M.Sc., MCA and Ph.D. courses. Currently, the total number of students of the University is around 2800 in ten Undergraduate disciplines and ten Postgraduate disciplines. The University has increased its intake from 60 to 120 in B.Tech. programmes such as Civil, Electrical, Mechanical and Electronics & Telecommunication Engineering and 40 to 60 in Information Technology during 2013-2014. The University has introduced new B.Tech. programme in Metallurgy & Material Engg, and 5 yr B.Arch programme in Architecture with an intake of 60 each. A 2 yrs M.Tech. Programme in Information and Communication Technology with an intake of 18 has also been started in the current academic year. More over a 5 yr. Integrated M.Sc. Programme in Chemistry with an intake of 18 has also been started in the current academic year. The University has given more emphasis to Doctoral programmes for the faculty members of this University as well as for other technical institutions of the State. 37 numbers of research scholars have been enrolled in the Ph.D. programme in the current academic year. New innovations like continuous students' evaluation, feed back system and curriculum reforms have been made from time to time.

Infrastructure Development

In order to cope with the recent development in scientific and technical education, the University has developed its infrastructure which includes the following:

- 100 seated SC/ST Ladies hostel is under construction.
- 300 seated boys hostel is under construction.
- New 3R (2 Block) & 4R Flat (2 Block) Staff Quarter are under construction.
- 3R (4 Nos.) & C-type (3 Nos.) Quarters have been renovated for the accommodation of PG students during 2013.
- Construction of a Guest House is under progress.
- Administrative Building has been renovated.
- Academic Block Extension and Renovation taken up by IDCO.
- Renovation and Redensification of Hostels taken up by IDCO.
- Construction of 600 seated M.Tech. Hostel taken up by IDCO.
- Master plan of the University has been prepared by the IDCO.
- The construction work of 2nd Floor of Anuradha Hall of Residence has been started by MCL.
- Request already made to AICTE to provide funds for another 100 seated hostel for SC/ST students.
- Request already made to Commissioner-cum-Secretary, SC/ST Department, Govt. of Odisha to provide funds for a SC/ST boy's hostel.
- Request already made to MCL to provide a 300 seated boy's hostel.
- Beautification of the Academic Campus has been made by installing neon street lights.
- Development of lawns and gardens and cleaning of campus in the University premises have been outsourced.
- The Vice-Chancellor's Secretariat and HOD rooms have been renovated.
- Roads in the Academic campus have been widened.
- Aluminium Composite Panel with circular Stainless Steel Pipe Sign Boards have been fixed in various locations of the University.
- Open Air Theater has been renovated.
- Technology Club has been renovated.
- Provision of Rs.30.00 lakhs has been made for renovation of staff quarters (Non-teaching).

- Cleaning of bushes in the University and Residential campus has been taken up through outsourcing.
- E-journal (Science Direct Option-4) has been procured through INDEST for the Central Library.
- Intercom system has been renovated.
- 200 new computers have been procured by various departments.
- IBGPS Internet connectivity worth Rs.45.00 lakhs from BSNL has been installed.
- The University became the member of National Knowledge Network (NKN).
- The University LAN has been extended to all the hostels and computer laboratories of the departments through optical fibre backbone under NME-ICT scheme. The Internet Centre has been renovated and 54 nos. of computers has been procured.
- 90 Nos. of All-in-One printer have been procured for the faculty members of various departments from TEQIP fund. 15 Nos. of Laptops, LCD projectors and Photocopiers and 10 Nos. of computers have been procured out of TEQIP fund for various departments and sections.

Sponsored Research and Industrial Consultancy

VSSUT is situated in the midst of industrial hub. It benefits greatly from its long standing ties with the Government agencies. The University has been continuously applying for projects to various agencies like AICTE, DST, UGC and other Govt. & Private Agencies. Approximately Rs.1.00 crore has been received from various funding agencies during 2013. Several consultancy and sponsored research projects have been undertaken by various departments of Govt. of Odisha. Thirteen numbers of sponsored research projects are in progress. Further, the University Grants Commission has allocated Rs.7.00 crores in the XII th five year plan under the General Development Assistance.

Awards and Distinctions

The teachers and students of VSSUT are receiving awards, honours and distinctions in their academic pursuits. Around 150 Nos. of technical papers have been published in reputed national and international journals by the faculty members of VSSUT. 13 Nos. of Short term courses, Faculty Development Programme, Seminar, Symposia and Conferences have been organized by the University during 2013. Govt. of

Odisha has recognised Electrical Engineering Department as a Centre of Excellence in 2013. One student of the Department of Chemistry has submitted his Ph.D. thesis

under VSSUT this year. The Govt. of Odisha has submitted a proposal of Rs.265 crores to 14th Finance Commission for upgrading VSSUT at par with NITs. Further, the University are also submitted a proposal for Rs. 500 crores to Govt. under Rastriya Uchhatar Sikhsha Aviyam (RUSA).

Alumni Affairs

Alumni of this University have played a significant role in facilitating interaction of VSSUT with other Universities/Institutions/Organizations in India and abroad. VSSUT has produced nearly 25,000 alumni spread all over the globe. The 1st Global Alumni Meet has been conducted during December, 2012. The Alumni are holding key positions in different organizations through out the world. It is a glorious moment for us when one of our alumni Er. Manas Bhadra (2010 pass out) of Mechanical Engineering was a member of the team of MANGAL YAN. We are also proud of our alumni Er. Sameer Panda for showing his talent in making a mild run flat tyre. The alumni association has contributed crores of rupees which have been utilized for the development of their Almamater through the following projects like Golden Jubilee Gate, E-learning Centre, Golden Jubilee Seminar Hall, Central Computer Centre, Laboratory facility of Production Engineering Department, etc.

Training and Placement

The Training & Placement Cell of the University is actively engaged in amalgamating relationship between the University and various industrial sectors. During 2012-13, 12 companies and industries visited our campus for taking placement interviews. 428 nos. of students have been placed by various recruiting agencies like, INFOSYS, TCS, WIPRO, IBM, L&T, Maruti, HINDALCO, BHUSAN etc. Besides, our students are doing excellent performance in GATE examination for which they have been selected in various PSUs. In addition, the faculties are being trained for imparting soft skill training to the students in order to make them industry friendly. In order to develop personality of the students, a personality development laboratory has been set up in the Training and Placement Cell in collaboration with IIT, Kharagpur. About 120 Companies have offered summer internship programmes to our students.

Student Affairs

VSSUT works towards personality development of its students by inculcating cooperative spirit, leadership quality and organisational capability. This is being achieved by involving them in various games and sports as well as constant technical activities throughout the year. The year 2013 was also full of activities and achievements. The students of this University are well known for their excellence in sports and cultural activities. A Robotic club has been formed in which the students are given training in Robot modelling, simulation and operation. They are doing well in the All India Robotic Competition (ROBOCON). Recently, they are engaged in making a humanoid robot to be unveiled shortly. The students of our University are being continuously selected by the National level competition BAJA SAE. Er. Aditya Bose (2012 pass out) and Mr. Sahil Sankalp (Final year) are two team members who have filed patent for new technologies in automobile engg. Supra SAE team in their maiden venture has secured 11th rank in the virtual round by defeating many IIT, NIT and also the previous year champion. Our students have done well by securing 47th rank in India in the EFFI CYCLE competition.

VSSUT hosts a series of national level technical symposia in all the engineering disciplines for students which provide them the skill of innovation combined with organizing ability.

Recruitment of Faculty and Staff

The Govt. of Odisha has sanctioned 96 numbers of additional regular teaching posts and 17 numbers of contractual non-teaching posts due to increase in intake and also opening of new B.Tech., M.Tech. and M.Sc. programmes in 2013. Recruitment of substantial vacant teaching posts has been made in 2013. 09 nos. of non-teaching positions have been filled up. Recently 159 teaching and officers posts have been advertised (Professors-24, Reader/Assistant Professors-47, Lecturers-86, Dean, Students' Welfare-1 and Controller of Examination-1) and likely to be filled up by March-2014.

Future Plan for the University

Infrastructure development

- Construction of new 3R & 4R Quarters for faculty members.
- Completion of e-Learning Centre.

- Construction of Compound Wall on vacant lands.
- Repair and Renovation of Staff Quarters.
- The new Academic campus in front of the present Academic campus will be developed as per the Master Plan.
- Internal roads on the back side of the University Academic campus will be taken up.
- Lawns and Gardens on the uncovered area of the Academic campus will be taken up.
- Purchase of Furniture for Class rooms, faculty members and Vice-Chancellors' Secretariat are under process.
- Purchase of e-journal and books for the Central Library is under process.

Opening of New UG & PG Programmes (2014-15)

- B.Tech. programme in Chemical Engineering
- B.Tech. programme in Bio-technology
- B.Tech. programme in Mining Engineering
- 5-yr Integrated programme in Physics
- 5-yr Integrated programme in Mathematics
- 2 yrs MBA Programme
- M.Tech programme in RF & Microwave Engg.

Others

- Proposal for NBA Accreditation is under progress
- Proposal for NAAC Accreditation
- Renovation and Digitization of Central Library. A substantial amount will be spent for this purpose and procurement of Books and Journals, etc.
- Modernization of Central Workshop, Central Computer Centre and Central Internet Facility.
- More Research proposals are to be submitted to DST, AICTE, UGC, etc.
- More Short term Courses will be conducted.
- The University website will be renovated and updated at par with the institution of national importance.
- Class notes of faculty members will be digitalized.
- Automation of Examination Section, other sections, MIS will be taken up.
- Campus Wi Fi connectivity will be taken up.

Graduates of the Year

In this Convocation, we are going to confer degrees on 522 outgoing students (B.Tech -417, M.Tech. – 75, MCA – 30). I am very glad to announce that 09 students will receive the University Gold Medals and 13 students will also receive the University Silver Medals in Graduate and Post Graduate Programmes.

I extend my hearty congratulations to all the medal winners, graduate and post graduate engineers. We have made all our efforts to provide you the best technical education. I am sure, the training you have received will empower you to overcome challenges in your future endeavour and your achievements will be a source of proud to your Alma Mater.

To-day is also a memorable day for the proud parents to see their children getting the degrees.

I am also happy to have our Hon'ble Chancellor and an eminent educationalist as our Chief Guest in to-days Convocation. I extend my hearty thanks to both our Hon'ble Chancellor and Chief Guest for their gracious presence in spite of their busy schedule.

A concerted team work drawn from our students, faculty, staff and Alumni has enabled the holding of this Convocation. I wish to express our sincere thanks to all of them.

I also thank the press and media for their support and cooperation in giving a wide coverage to the Convocation Ceremony.

I am also grateful to the members of the Board of Management of the University for their support and co-operation.

At the end, I, on behalf of VSSUT and on my personal behalf, once again extend my hearty thanks to all our guests & invitees, and would like to felicitate the gold and silver medal winners and the degree recipients for their achievements. I hope that our nation and the world at large will be benefitted immensely by their entry into the arena of science and technology.

I thank you all once again for your kind participation.

Bande Utkala Janani

Jai Hind

Burla

December 19, 2013

Prof. Bijoy Kumar Nanda

Vice-Chancellor