

Press Release

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President urged youth to take greater responsibility to keep the planet green

Attends 19th convocation of Tezpur University

"Assam is gifted with extraordinary beauty of nature and rich bio-diversity and needed to be preserved. Every resident of Assam, especially the youth has to be very active on the fronts of conservation and sustainable development", this was observed by Hon'ble President of India and Visitor of Tezpur University, Shri Ram Nath Kovind, who was attending 19th convocation of the University at the Kalaguru Bishnuprasad Rabha auditorium today.

Speaking on the occasion, the President expressed his happiness to note about the renewable energy initiatives of the University, especially in the adopted villages of the University. The President observed that Assam has done a commendable job in conserving bio-diversity. "Kaziranga National Park and Tiger Reserve" are impressive examples of conservation and conservation must be the watch word for every citizen, especially the student community", He said. He urged the youth to take more responsibility to keep the planet green. "The young population has greater stakes in keeping the planet green and they have to demonstrate greater awareness through their action", The president observed.

Noting that the North-Eastern states give high priority to organic farming, the President said that Tezpur University can play a major role in branding and marketing of agricultural produce of this region. He was happy to note that the university has received approval under the 'Prime Minister-Formalization of Micro Food Processing Enterprises Scheme' for setting up an incubation centre to process jackfruit and ready to eat cereals-based products. He also expressed happiness that the Food Engineering & Technology Department has been recognized as State Level Technical Institute for implementation of

the Scheme. Referring the unique Joha rice of Assam which is known for its excellent taste and aroma, he said that universities of Assam can help the farmers by branding, popularising and marketing this unique variety of rice. There are many such agricultural products that can be promoted, he added.

Pointing to the fact that academic activities have been affected by the Covid pandemic, the President said that the pandemic has had serious impact on the education of the relatively vulnerable sections of our people. He further said that the National Education Policy 2020 which was released during the pandemic contains specific focus on digital education with the help of technology.

The president highlighted the importance of "Digital University" and urged Tezpur University to become an active stakeholder in this initiative, specially by providing high quality digital content in Assamese and other languages of the North-East.

The President urged the entire team of the University to keep past, present and future students bound by the spirit of oneness and move rapidly towards the goals set by the university – xopaan bogaam teebro gotire. He said that by moving fast to achieve ambitious targets, the university would be able to contribute meaningfully to India's emergence as a much more prosperous and strong nation by the year 2047 when the students of today will be among the decision makers

Taking part at the event as the Guest of Honour, Dr. Himanta Biswa Sarma, Chief Minister of Assam congratulated the graduating students for successful completion of their Degrees and Diplomas. He mentioned the importance of Tezpur as a city, which he described as one of the important cities of Assam and has been of immense importance since pre-historic times. He also reminded everyone that Tezpur University was established as an offshoot of the historic Assam Accord and recalled the contribution of martyrs of the historic Assam Agitation on this special occasion. The CM also announced that the government of Assam will construct a multi-purpose hall for the University.

Addressing the gathering, Dr. Sarma further explained the difference between "Education and knowledge" by quoting noted scholar and first Vice Chancellor of Gauhati University Krishnakanta Handique. "There is a difference between education and knowledge, the purpose of the school-college education is to make it suitable for the student life. However, the pursuit of knowledge is a solemn promise, which is a special form of life itself", he said.

Speaking on the occasion, Governor of Assam and the Chancellor of Tezpur University, Prof. Jagdish Mukhi, expressed his deep satisfaction to preside over the 19th convocation. Prof. Mukhi emphasized that higher education and academic research have always been the most crucial factors in the process of nation-building. He reiterated that the general quality of life and environment in any country is determined significantly by the educational competence of its citizens and the various institutional practices towards the inculcation of knowledge.

Prof. V.K.Jain, Vice Chancellor of the University briefly highlighted the profile of the University and informed the august gathering that the University is in step with the national and global policies of promoting environmental friendly measures in everyday living by encouraging green practices like use of alternative sources of energy and energy conservation, sustainable waste practices etc.

A total of 1249 students received their degrees and diplomas in the Convocation, out of which 401 were undergraduate, 717 postgraduate, 68 are PG Diplomas and 63 were Ph.Ds Among the degree recipients, 45 toppers of various undergraduate and postgraduate programmes received Gold Medals.
