

SPEECH OF HIS EXCELLENCY, THE GOVERNOR-CUM-CHANCELLOR OF UNIVERSITIES OF JHARKHAND ON THE OCCASION OF CONVOCATION OF RANCHI UNIVERSITY ON 17TH APRIL, 2010 .

Hon'ble Chief Minister Sri Sibusoren, Hon'ble Minister, Human Resource Development Sri Hemlal Murmu, Homi Bhabha Professor and Padma Bhushan Dr. Bikash Sinha, Vice-Chancellor of Ranchi University Professor A. A. Khan, Members of the Senate, Members of the Academic Council, Members of the Syndicate, Members of the Faculty, degree recipients, media representatives, ladies and gentlemen!

It is a matter of pride and privilege for me to address the young degree recipients on the momentous occasion of the 24th convocation of Ranchi University. At the outset let me congratulate all of you who have gathered here to receive the degrees. The years of toil and labour in pursuit of intellectual excellence has brought you today to the gateway of all your future dreams & achievements. You represent the youth of India and India has high expectations of you. I wish you to excel in whatever field you choose for yourselves.

I also congratulate all the Parents, all the faculty members, staff members and other employees of the University, who are directly or indirectly involved in this process. Graduating students must always remember that Parents, Teachers, other guides and mentors have a critical contribution towards their achievement.

It is the first and foremost responsibility of the universities to produce well-informed, motivated and cultured citizens for the nation. Higher education opens unlimited vistas and possibilities of success and growth. Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru rightly defined University as, I quote, *“A University stands for humanism, for tolerance, for progress, for adventure of ideas and for the search of truth. It stands for the onward march of the human race towards ever higher objectives. If the universities discharge their duty adequately, then it is well with the nation and the people”*. unquote

Nature has endowed Jharkhand with tremendous natural beauty and rich mineral resources and yet large portion of our population languishes at the bottom of most parameters of human development index. We have to make collective resolve to take our state forward along the path of inclusive growth & development through intellectual and scientific know-how. The Universities of Jharkhand have to play a very big role in tapping the intellect and creating awareness among its students and scholars to help translate the potential for growth and development in Jharkhand into reality.

This is the age of globalisation and of rapid changes wherein new challenges are being posed and new opportunities are being discovered at great speed. The digital revolution has brought the whole world at your door steps. With a click of mouse you can access to any international library or any new concept which was not possible 50 years back. These new opportunities need to be leveraged for the benefit of our people and our nation.

In India, in spite of great developmental strides, there has been widespread increase in unemployment. This unemployment among the degree-holders of the universities illustrates the deficiencies of the educational system. This disconnect between higher education on one hand and Societal needs on the other, must be addressed immediately through educational planning.

Every university needs to look back and ahead to situate itself in larger context of that continuing endeavour of which it is a part. In the eternal quest of mankind there should be perpetual creation of knowledge by the co-operative collaboration & enthusiasm of lecturers and students. University education should create vision and provide for continuous experimentation.

Ranchi University has been making impressive strides in this endeavour. I have been told that three colleges of Ranchi University have been granted autonomous status by the UGC. Two colleges have been identified for having Potential for Excellence and a few University Departments have been given status of SAP. It is further gratifying to learn that Ranchi University will shortly be celebrating golden jubilee of its constitution later this year.

A strong endowment is a key indicator of the quality and financial strength of a university. It is the gauge by which institutional academic stability is measured. I am happy to know that in this regard Ranchi University has taken commendable steps in creating an "Endowment Fund" of Rs.12.85 crore. Further Ranchi University has instituted Visiting Chairs in the faculties of Humanities and Social Sciences, Ph.D. scholarships and Teaching Assistantships in each

university department. Moreover, the University is holding to extra mural lecture series in each faculty and has introduced some other schemes, too, customized to benefit meritorious students belonging to BPL category. All expenses incurred on such schemes are met from this endowment fund. I congratulate the Vice-Chancellor and his team for initiating such innovative academic programmes and hope that the same shall be sustained.

At this juncture, I would like to quote Maharishi Patanjali's thoughts given in Yoga Sutra quote

"When you are inspired by some great purpose, some extraordinary project, all your thoughts break their bounds, your mind transcends limitations, your consciousness expands in every direction, and you find yourself in a new, great and wonderful world. Dormant forces, faculties and talents come alive, and you discover yourself to be a greater person by far than you ever dreamt yourself to be."

Once again let me congratulate all the graduating students and offer my best wishes to all the members of Ranchi University for success in their sacred mission of education.

May God bless you all.

Thank You.