

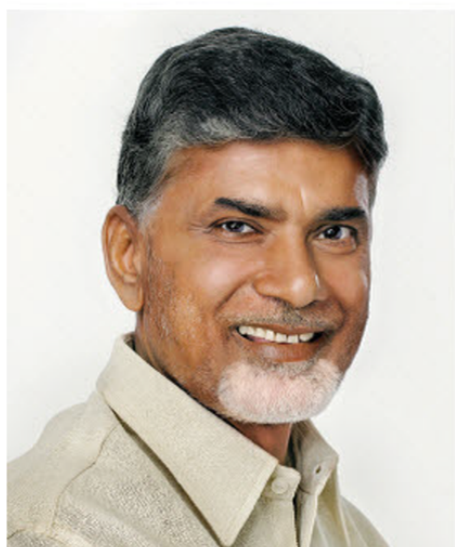


**Rajiv Gandhi University
of Knowledge Technologies**



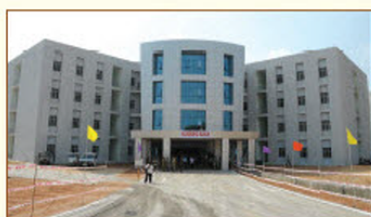
Convocation

Monday, August 4, 2014



Convocation Address by
Shri N. Chandrababu Naidu

Hon'ble Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh



RGUKT Nuzvid



RGUKT RK Valley



RGUKT Basar

His Excellency, Sri ESL Narasimhan, Prof Raj Reddy, Prof V Raja Kumar, Members of the Governing Council.

It is an Honour to be with the distinguished faculty, proud parents, eminent guests, and most importantly, the University's first graduating class.

This day, I am sure, will mark a distinct and impressive achievement for this class. Join me in giving our warmest congratulations to the young achievers.

I must tell you that I am the happiest when I am with a gathering like this. In these young achievers I see the bright future of our country.

You go out into the world and make your families proud, our state proud, and our country proud. I know that you are going to enrich the overall human experience on our dear planet. Some of you will be distinguished technological leaders, some of you will be successful entrepreneurs, and some might be leaders in research and development.

I wish all of you the very best in your careers.

Six years since inception, the University has grown from a fledgling 6000-seater to a varsity with sprawling campuses, renowned faculty, ICT-based education, world-class laboratories and a dynamic campus life.

The achievements of this batch are commendable. I'm told that around 20 per cent of students from this class have already been placed with reputed organizations and multinational companies.

I congratulate the Chancellor, Vice-Chancellor, members of the Governing Council and the University staff for their guidance in making education inclusive with a noble aim to educate meritorious rural youth.

While the world becomes more connected with everyone making friends online or offline, Andhra Pradesh now stands at a junction where we need to promote technology-led sectors like IT and Electronics. We either have to build completely new infrastructure or upgrade the existing infrastructure like airports, highways, ports, communications, power and social infrastructure.

There is also a compelling need to build institutions of excellence in health and education sectors. We also need

to enhance productivity in all major sectors, especially, agriculture and allied activities, and in manufacturing.

Yes, these are tough tasks at hand in building a new state. This not only calls for our ardent efforts but those of a game-changing type. I have always believed and continue to believe that the innovative uses of technology can prove to be the right answers for us at this critical situation our State is faced with.

Given that IT, Electronics and e-Governance play a vital role in this mammoth task, I have prepared a comprehensive Blueprint on three areas, soon after I took over the responsibility of Andhra Pradesh.

With the challenge of rapidly developing the State in front of us, we have certain imperatives to deal with. I would like to talk of 3 such imperatives:

1. Firstly, we need to focus on high-end value-addition to the IT industry. While the wage arbitrage to some extent and availability of manpower in abundance have helped us propel the country and the State to new heights in the IT sector, we cannot rely on this forever. Of course, IT/ITES businesses create large

number of jobs. But there is a limit to its growth rate which we seem to have reached. We have to focus on areas of high-value addition if we have to survive and grow. We need to think seriously about product development for domestic markets and how they will gain global demand and respect.

I want all of you to apply your minds to this challenge.

2. As a society, we must be driven by innovation. While industry creates jobs, innovation creates wealth. A small city like Tel Aviv stands second only to the Silicon Valley in the degree of innovation. Bangalore stands at the 18th position. We too can create Innovation-driven cities with abundant talent and entrepreneurship we have in AP.

I call upon all of you to ready yourselves to this task. I trust that with your zeal, ability and commitment it is, indeed, achievable.

3. I must emphasize that being quality-driven is an imperative too. In a technology-driven world that changes everyday, we need to set our standards

high by recruiting high-quality talent. There can be no compromise whatsoever; irrespective of the role one is playing – either as a teacher, learner, students developer, analyst or architect.

A TRIAD of policies is required to meet the growth requirements of the technology sector. These are

IT Policy,

An Electronics Policy

And an Innovation Policy.

We are proceeding with a clear vision. We want to transform our society into a knowledge society. The key words here are: Transformation and Knowledge society.

I want the society to move on rapidly. I want it to become a knowledge society. Technology should touch every life. The poorest woman member of a rural self-help group should be touched and transformed by technology.

In other words, I want that what you do here in this and other campuses to touch the lives of the poor and transform them.

My vision for AP is to develop it into a knowledge society of global repute, with a focus on enhancing the quality

of life of its citizens -- through high-quality education and healthcare, increased agriculture productivity and allied activities, creation of employment opportunities by promoting electronics and IT industries. And, above all, by providing good governance

I am happy to tell you that my government has approved a new IT Policy just recently. This policy will help transform our society into a knowledge hub. Andhra Pradesh will soon be a formidable centre of excellence in every field.

Our IT policy takes into consideration, the needs of the new State and builds on its strengths. We have committed ourselves to attract an investment of US\$ 2 billion in IT and \$5 billion in Electronics in the next few years, and create an employment for 5 lakh people. This is a herculean task, given that the current base is too small in both the sectors. We have built the IT Policy on 4 basic pillars that are:

- a. Enhancing the quality of human resources in technology sectors
- b. Attractive package of incentives
- c. Creation of mega infrastructure
- d. Creating systems based on good governance.

I must emphasize that enhancing the quality of technical education is the need of the hour. In this regard, the policy envisages working with the University systems (i) To update curricula to match global standards (ii) To assign credits to recognized online courses, and (iii) A special scheme of faculty up gradation shall be introduced.

The government would gladly support the opening of premier IT institutes, in partnership with the top IT Companies and Foreign Universities, in Andhra Pradesh. All educational institutions offering undergraduate courses in software engineering, electronics and computer sciences will implement a mandatory internship/apprenticeship in the fourth year of the course, in association with the industry.

Assistance shall be provided to MSMEs with a minimum of 20 employees upto Rs 10,000 per employee, on obtaining recognized certifications in emerging technologies.

In our pursuit of developing AP into a Silicon Corridor, we wish to focus on fabless semi-conductor industry, manufacturing of electronic products and components and by attracting companies that work on emerging technologies like SMAC (Social media, mobility, analytics and cloud) and IOT (Internet of Things). I'm happy

to inform that start-ups will get a major boost in our upcoming Innovation policy.

As my government plans to give an impetus to manufacturing activity through wealth and job creations, I wish to see engineers from institutes like RGUKT to help put Andhra Pradesh on growth path.

I appeal to each one of you, here, to work hard and develop entrepreneurship skills in order to create and innovate.

We have a fair idea of what our challenges are. We have a clear understanding of what we need to do.

Now is the time to do it.

And together, we can do it.

My young friends, We will do it.

The future is in our hands!

Thank you, and my god bless you all.

Jai Hind