

SPEECH OF SHRI LA. GANESAN, HON'BLE GOVERNOR OF
MANIPUR AT THE 35TH CONVOCATION OF INDIRA GANDHI
NATIONAL OPEN UNIVERSITY ON 26TH APRIL, 2022

Dr. S.J. Neethirajan ji, Regional Director,

Distinguished Guests,

Learned Faculties,

Officials and Staff of the University,

Degree Recipients,

Friends from Electronic and Print Media,

Dear Students,

Brothers and Sisters,

I am very happy to preside over the 35th Convocation of Indira Gandhi National Open University, Regional Centre, Imphal today and address the students, Faculty Members, Scholars and others present on this annual academic ceremony of the University. Let me, at the outset, extend my best wishes to all of you.

Convocation is a special occasion that means so much in the lives of students. It is that wonderful day when the years of academic life culminate into a coveted degree. It is a moment of great joy. Let me congratulate all the students who have received degrees today. Dear students, your accomplishments have made all of us proud. It is the affection, good-will and guidance of your parents, faculty, staff and friends which motivated you for your achievements.

IGNOU is a University for catering to the educational needs of prospective learners through open and distance mode came in to effect by a Parliamentary Act as IGNOU Act, 1985.

I am, indeed, very happy to learn that IGNOU has 21 Schools and a network of 676 Regional Centres, 2667 study centres and 29 overseas centres in 15 Countries. Approximately 20% of all students

enrolled in Higher Education in India are enrolled with IGNOU. It offers academic courses as Degrees, Diplomas, Post-graduate Diplomas and Certificate Programmes.

It is commendable and praiseworthy that the University is providing affordable education to the under privileged students, reaches the door steps of the learners with its excellent student support system. IGNOU offers free education to jail inmates. During this pandemic period IGNOU played an exemplary role by conducting the examination in the off-line mode following all precautionary measures recommended by the Government of India.

It is also gratifying to note that IGNOU has opened three study centres recently at Moreh, Kakching and Thoubal. The study centre, particularly at Moreh serves the educational need of International students since the town being located on the International Border with Myanmar. Thus, IGNOU Regional Centre, Imphal is serving the State as well as internationally also.

Convocation marks an ending to academic life but it also marks a new beginning. As you step out from the comfort zone of the University, remember that the challenge ahead of you is quite big, but never bigger than your intrinsic worth properly explored. To excel on your new path, you need to pursue the excitement of intellectual curiosity. Overcoming difficulties will make you better. I am sure, your education has made you capable of entering a field which is at the centre of our country's economy. I am confident that you will deliver with sincerity, industry and dedication. I wish you all the very best.

The youth are the engine of growth. They are to be equipped with knowledge, skill, wisdom and dedication and encouraged to come up with innovative ideas to find solution to every problem. We are one of the youngest nations in the world with around 65 per cent of our population under the age of 35. Our vision should be to make IGNOU a world-class University.

With these words, I wish the students bright future and University all success.

Thank you,

Jai Hind.