

Speech for Convocation Address

at

“Uttaranchal University”

By

**Honourable Governor Lt. Gen. Gurmit Singh, PVSM,
UYSM, AVSM, VSM (Retd.)**

Date: 24 November 2022

Jai Hind!

Guest of honor, Dr. Dhan Singh Rawat Ji, Minister Higher Education, Government of Uttarakhand, Shri Jitender Joshi Ji, Chancellor, Uttaranchal University, Prof. Satbir Singh Sehgal, Vice President, Prof. Dharam Buddhi, Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Rajesh Bahuguna, Pro Vice-Chancellor, Shri S. C. Sharma, Registrar, Members of Board of Governor, Board of Management, Academic Council, Guests, Deans, Faculty members, Parents, Graduating Students, representatives of Press and Media, Ladies and Gentlemen.

I would like to congratulate everyone on this momentous occasion. Convocation is one of the most unforgettable moments in the life of a student. Students across the world wait for this special day. When meritorious students pass out and move forward on a new journey of life, the university and its teachers feel proud. The thrill and excitement of the students while receiving the degrees and medals are always spectacular, it is also an opportunity for parents to take pride in the achievement of their children.

I am glad to note that Uttarakhand University is the only and first state self-financed University accredited with NAAC A+ Grade, lets clap for its unique achievement. I wish all the best and success for its new avenue of Online Education which may help the nation to increase the Gross Enrolment Ratio (GER) in higher education. I wanted to have an application to share the research, innovation and best practices among peer universities and this dream took shape with the help of creative minds and innovative approaches of the students and teachers of Uttarakhand University, I am happy to launch the UniSangam App which is available at Google Play. It is also important to mention that Uttarakhand University is serving by Indian Judiciary by providing 60 Judicial Officers and 3 Judge Advocates in Defence forces of India.

Let me at the outset congratulate all of you who are graduating today. Needless to say, this is a moment of great joy and satisfaction in your life. Your academic efforts have come to fruition. This marks the completion of one stage in your life and another is about to begin.

Many of you will be moving out of the sheltered confines of a college and entering the real world with all its ups and downs. The process of transition will pose some problems, but I am sure that with the value system and training that you have acquired at this Institute, you will be able to face the world with confidence. From the country's point of view, we welcome you as our next generation of Engineers, Managers, Scientists and leaders.

Most of the graduating students today will surely take up leadership roles in such organisations which catalyse equitable and sustainable growth in our country. Many of the participants may also explore taking up entrepreneurship roles which will create employment opportunities for others. The Indian economy acknowledged globally as the fastest growing in the world will offer you adequate opportunities to choose a profession of your choice.

One of the critical issues being faced in development initiatives is the gap between planning and implementation. Quite often the gap is resultant of planners not being adequately exposed to field realities. Young graduates passing out today having adequately exposed to academics and field realities must bridge this gap wherever they go.

The challenge, however, is implementation. Absence of appropriate institutions is one of the main reasons for such variability and inadequate performance. The efficiency of delivery in these programmes can be enhanced many folds if “beneficiary owned and led institutions” take the leadership in many of these programmes.

I am quite assured that Uttarakhand University is disseminating research and knowledge in appropriate proportion and creating all-rounders and I am really glad to know that the Uttarakhand University provides 26 percent fee concession and 40 percent reservation for the domicile of Uttarakhand. In the year 2022 Uttarakhand University has awarded scholarship of 17 crore to meritorious and economically weaker section students. Today we are at a decisive moment in the history of India and celebrating the Amrit Mahotsav of Independence on completion of 75 years of the

country's independence. India's economic growth and transformation is intrinsically linked to its education and skills. Only an educated nation can aspire to be a developed nation. By 2030, India is set to be the youngest nation in the world and you will be leaders for coming 25 years of Amrit Kaal. It is pertinent to mention that one out of every four graduates in the world will be a graduate of the Indian Higher Education System in the next 10 years. The Indian education system has to uplift itself in this knowledge economy by striking a balance between quality and quantity of research and knowledge. It looks that Uttaranchal University is contributing in this direction appropriately.

My dear students, Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam said, “If you want to be shine like a sun first burn like sun”. So go ahead with endless energy, perseverance, courage and patience to accomplish great things. Nothing great was ever achieved without determination and there is no substitute for hard work. Completing university education is not the end of your learning activities, it is necessary to develop a lifelong learning habit for better sustainability.

All the students who are passing out from this university will be shouldering great responsibilities in due time. Some of you may go for pursuing higher education and others may opt becoming entrepreneurs or join industries. I would like to advice the students who are going to start their ventures, to do your work with full dedication, ability and honesty by following moral values and ethics. You will find a crowd of degree holders from various institutions, but understand the importance of the right path to reach the top and work for it with commitment to make your destination easier to achieve.

We will have to take a pledge for development of our nation and it is possible by strengthening the technology around. We should not forget our mother earth and it can be made happier and prosperous by utilizing clean energy, natural farming and many other adventures activities based on latest technology. Together the technology and research can change the future of the nation. Your abilities of entrepreneurship will definitely scaffold the Skill India and Make in India movement. Let's create 500 trillion economy of India in next few years

Once again, I congratulate all 6329 recipients on your special day and before you leave this beautiful auditorium you should always remember that degrees can be earned by knowledge but your resilience, humbleness and dedication towards society make you a good human being.

All the very best.

Jai Hind!