

Sambalpur University
XXVI Convocation-2012
The 25th Day of February, 2014

Welcome Address by Prof Bishnu Charan Barik, Vice-Chancellor

His Excellency, the Chancellor of the University, Dr S C Jamir; His Excellency Governor of Nagaland, Dr Ashwani Kumar; Registrar, Shri Sudarshan Das; Deans of Faculties; Distinguished Invitees, Faculty colleagues, Officers of the University and Staff members, Officers of District Administration, Recipients of Degrees, Diplomas, Awards and Gold Medals; Media persons; Ladies and Gentlemen.

On behalf of the Senate, Syndicate, Academic Council and the University Community, I extend a hearty welcome to our Hon'ble Chancellor and President of this function; Hon'ble Governor of Nagaland, our distinguished Chief Guest; all the distinguished invitees; graduates of the university who would receive their degrees and gold medals; students, ladies and gentlemen.

On this 26th Convocation day, we confer degrees on persons who have graduated in the year 2012. I congratulate all the degree recipients who, on successful completion of their respective courses of studies, will receive degrees from the university today. The convocation day is an important day in everyone's life. After sincere and hard work during your studentship, today you will be awarded the degree which you rightly deserve. You are going to enter a new professional world shortly. I wish each one of you achieves supreme success in your endeavours to excel in the professional world as well as in your personal life and hope all of you will make sincere efforts for the development our motherland.

I am grateful to His Excellency the Governor of Odisha and Hon'ble Chancellor of Sambalpur University, Dr S C Jamir, for taking earnest interest for the academic growth of our university, and with his encouragement we have been striving to raise the standard of teaching and research to greater heights.

On behalf of the university community and on my own behalf I am extremely grateful to His Excellency Dr Ashwani Kumar for gracing this Convocation as Chief Guest despite his busy schedule. Dr Ashwani Kumar is a graduate from, the National Defence College, Government of India, New Delhi and has obtained his Post-graduate and PhD in MBA, specialising in Human Resource

Management. Dr Ashwani Kumar joined Indian Police Service in the year 1973 and was posted in Himachal Pradesh. Dr Ashwani Kumar reached the highest position in the State cadre as DGP and Government of India in the year 2008 appointed him as Director of CBI, a coveted and very sensitive position. Dr Ashwani Kumr has travelled overseas and has had interaction with various agencies on subjects of security and intelligence. Sambalpur University expresses its gratitude to Dr Ashwani Kumar for accepting the invitation to be the Chief Guest of this 26th Convocation.

Being situated in the western part of Odisha, Sambalpur University suffers from locational disadvantages. Despite this, learned faculties, concerned employees and able administrative staff members along with our sincere students with the support of the people of various districts under the jurisdiction of the University and above all due support from the state Government and UGC; we have been making sincere efforts to achieve the standards of excellence conducive to the demand of the time.

Our University records the appreciation and hard work of all the former Vice Chancellors whose efforts brought the University to this level.

Our University is the only university in India that has been honouring poets of national stature since 1992, every year, with the Gangadhar National Award for Poetry. Many distinguished Indian poets like Sardar Ali Jaffery, Shakti Chattopadhyay, Ayiappa Panniker, Binda Karandikar, Nirupama Kaur, M Satchidanandan, Shankha Ghosh, Nilamani Phookan, Gulzar, Dr Surjit Singh Pattar, Dr Rajendra Kishore Panda and Shri Vasdev Mohi have been the recipients of this National Award.

There has been a significant improvement in the quality and quantity of our student intake and their academic performance. The Alumni Meet of various Post Graduate Departments every year speak on their appreciation to the alma mater. It is my proud privilege to mention a few achievements of the University in brief, since 30th July, 2012, the day the last convocation was held.

- Results of various Post Graduate courses of 2012 examination were published within a period of 45 days to enable our students to get admission into various higher centres of excellence of the country and also to compete for jobs.

- Faculty members of the University have a tradition of undertaking research in various subjects. Quite a good number of International and National research papers were published during the period.
- 27 seminars and conferences were organized in the campus to keep the students and teachers of the University update on development in various fields crossing the boundaries of the University, state and country.
- The Department of Chemistry and Physics have been recognized for FIST under DST and received a grant of 05 crores
- Faculty members have got research projects of around 2.5 crores from various funding agencies, both government and non-government. All these research projects help the teachers in continuing the legacy of the research tradition and at the same time generate resources and employment in the University.
- To keep pace in the spirit of transborder exchange of ideas and knowledge, the University signed MOU with Tübingen University, Germany and Erasmus Mundus Programme of European Commission.
- To understand the dynamics of backwardness and the avenues of development of rural areas, a Post Graduate course on “Rural Development” will be introduced from the coming academic session.
- Hon’ble Chief Minister of Odisha visited our University on 29.01.2014 and laid foundation of one boy’s hostel and three ladies hostel, the estimated cost of which is around 15 crores. Hon’ble Chief Minister also inaugurated the SUIIT Academic Building constructed at a cost of 6.5 crores.
- Our University is now preparing to go for NAAC accreditation.

With the expansion of teaching Departments, increasing students’ enrollment and research activities, we find difficulty of space and infrastructure. But maintaining a right balance in the consolidation of the existing Departments, infrastructure and nurturing the newly established Departments has been a challenge.

The Sambalpur University Institute of Information Technology (SUIIT), an ambitious venture of the University to provide quality education on IT is now four years old. It is attracting students not only from various parts of the state but also from other states of the country.

Sambalpur University is an equilateral triangle. The three sides are Teachers, Employees and Students with equal importance. All the stake holders with emotional quotient work in collaboration with each other. The support of the state from above and the role of the society from below make the University vibrant. To maintain this tradition, I sincerely welcome feedbacks, suggestions from all of you to help the Institution prosper.

To all the degree recipients I once again convey my best wishes and I earnestly hope that you will be ever eager to embrace challenges in the contemporary globalized competitive world emphasizing speed, innovation, multi tasking and integrity.

Finally I express sincere thanks and gratitude on behalf of the University to one and all for your kind presence.

Jai Odisha

Convocation Address by Dr. S. C. Jamir, Governor of Odisha and Chancellor at the 26th Convocation of Sambalpur University on 25.02.2014.

Chief Guest of today's Convocation, Dr. Ashwani Kumar Ji,
Hon'ble Governor of Nagaland,

Vice-Chancellor, Prof. B.C. Barik,

Members of Syndicate, Senate and Academic Council,

Registrar, Shri S. Das,

Recipients of Degrees, Diplomas, Awards and Gold Medals,

Members of Faculty, Ministerial Staff and My dear Students,

Invitees, Media Persons, Ladies and Gentlemen

It gives me immense pleasure to preside over the
26th Convocation of Sambalpur University.

I have great pleasure in extending a very warm welcome to
our Chief Guest Dr. Ashwani Kumar Ji, Hon'ble Governor of

Nagaland on behalf of the University and also on my own behalf.

An alumnus of Rashtriya Indian Military College, Dehra

Dun and a graduate of the National Defence College, Ministry of

Defence he has a distinguished career in Indian Police Service

having served in several important positions with distinction,

dedication and devotion and was awarded with Indian Police

Medal for Meritorious Services and also the President's Police

Medal for Distinguished Services. He enjoys an excellent

reputation for enforcing rule of law and upholding human rights of

weaker sections of society. He held the prestigious post of

Director of Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI), the country's

premier investigation agency. Apart from a distinguished public

service career, he has an excellent academic record having done

Ph.D. in Management and was also a visiting faculty to

many universities, colleges and institutions. The University

remains thankful to him for accepting the invitation to grace this

academic ceremony as Chief Guest. I am sure, our students and

faculty must have been inspired by his intellectual pursuit and

hard work with which he has served the profession and above all the Nation and do resolve to bring in same spirit and dedication in their approach to achieve excellence.

I am also happy to extend a hearty welcome to all of you on this joyous and fulfilling occasion, the 26th Convocation of the University.

Convocation is a special day in the academic calendar of a University as the University fulfilling its social responsibility sends out young men and women to society equipping them with the power of knowledge. At the same time, it is a memorable day for students as they receive their cherished degree which gives them wings to soar high. So the joy is quite palpable here and I am happy to share the same joy and happiness of our young men and women graduating today.

Dear students, I offer my hearty congratulations to all of you on receiving the degrees, which marks the culmination of your scholarly efforts at this University and I am sure it is a

fulfillment of a great dream for you. The students who are being specially recognised certainly deserve our appreciation. All of you have gone through your respective courses of studies and have been adjudged to be worthy of the degrees that are being awarded to you. I also congratulate all those who have inspired you for this achievement in your life- your parents and your teachers. I wish to use this occasion to thank all the teachers who have shaped and guided young minds, making them ready to face the world and contribute significantly to the progress of the nation as worthy citizens.

Dear Students, you are stepping into an exciting world, with new hopes and aspirations, to commence a new phase in your life. Education is a life-long process and award of a degree is formal recognition of the fact that the student is ready to move a step forward towards acquiring yet more knowledge in the area of his or her choice. Convocation marks the culmination of a phase of learning but at the same time it marks start of another phase of

learning. I have no doubt that with the education and training you have received here and with an attitude of life-long learning, you will be ready to take on your role as leaders in your desired profession as well as good human beings in the society. The way our country is progressing, the opportunities for the capable ones are continuously expanding. You have to be an important part of the nation building process through your respective capabilities that you have acquired here. I wish all of you receiving degrees today a very successful career ahead. Successful French poet, and novelist, with several best-sellers Anatole France had said, "To accomplish great things, we must not only act but also dream, not only dream, but also believe." It says that you must believe in yourself and it is necessary to combine both faith and hard work for success. I wish all your dreams to be fully realised.

Sambalpur University has had distinguished contribution to human capital formation by way of teaching and research. Over a span of 47 years, this institution of higher learning has

intellectually and culturally nurtured the youth of Western Odisha while striving to disseminate knowledge of the entire globe in various disciplines. I am happy that Sambalpur University has become a beacon light of knowledge to nearly 90,000 students in 204 colleges affiliated to it in 10 districts of Odisha, which constitute about one third of area of the State.

It is further heartening that the University has contributed fairly well to the creation and development of human resources for efficient utilization of the locally available material resources, in addition to producing knowledge on environment management, sustainable use of natural resources, studying the indigenous cultures and folklore, archiving ancient cultural texts and the performing art forms of Odisha. All these activities speak of a vibrant scholarly culture of the University. In addition to running the conventional academic programmes of Languages and Literatures, Social Sciences, Mathematical Sciences, Physical and Chemical Sciences and Bio-Sciences, the University has

moved on to new areas of pedagogy for which it generates funds on its own. It is heartening that the University is running successfully a number of self-financing courses keeping in tune with the demand of time. The University has set up the institute SUIIT (Sambalpur University Institute of Information Technology) to impart quality education and training in the field of information technology to the students of Odisha at a reasonable cost. This is an admirable venture on the part of the University to prepare well trained IT professionals to seize the vast opportunity particularly when Bhubaneswar is fast becoming a favoured destination for leading IT companies.

Here it would be pertinent to say that the most important among the challenges faced by universities in recent years are the new imperatives of globalization and market economy. As a consequence the demand on professional and job oriented courses has risen much more than ever before, necessitating the

restructuring of the existing teaching departments in the universities. Redesigning of the courses, modifying as well as expanding the infrastructure lend a cutting edge to higher education in a highly competitive knowledge society of 21st century.

In the 12th Plan period (2012-17), the Union Government allocated Rs 4.13 lakh crore on higher education, which was about four times the amount allocated in the previous plan. A large chunk of this money was earmarked to be spent on setting up new institutions, expanding the existing ones and providing scholarship to the deserving among the socio-economically underprivileged students. This is part of an ongoing effort of the country to expand the base of higher education so that more and more young people can go to the colleges and universities, and the egalitarian objective of providing education to maximal number of youth and reducing social inequalities is achieved. I am happy that Sambalpur University, despite its own

resource crunch, has been trying to overcome in a limited way by running the self-financing courses. It has been commendably trying to reach out to the students primarily of rural and tribal base through various outreach programmes and meeting its social responsibilities.

I would like that Sambalpur University would focus more on exploring possibilities of interface with the local industries, floating commercially viable courses, signing more MOUs with foreign universities in order to attract foreign students to enroll in courses offered by it and so on. In view of the possibilities of a bright industrial future that Odisha has, with its concomitant socio-economic opportunities and problems, the University has to take stock of the existing potential for academic growth in terms of defining new thrust areas of research, particularly in the departments of Law, Management, Development Studies, Applied Sciences, Legal Studies, Environmental Studies and Social

Sciences to make itself meaningful and productive in the changing times.

High quality research in our universities must be emphasized for a variety of reasons. Aim of research should be to push frontiers of knowledge as well as to evolve technologies and to implement them for development. Our research should become comparable to the best in the world. We need to nurture innovation and for that we have to encourage our young men and women towards research activities and feel the excitement of arriving at new conclusions.

It is a waking call for us that not a single Indian university figures in the top 200 Universities of the world today. Improving quality and fostering excellence in our institutions of Higher Education is a critical challenge that we must collectively address. I think it is well worth exploring on how to attract good faculty, raise teaching standards, encourage cutting edge research and nurture talent. Our Universities and the faculty must

shape young people who can confidently engage themselves with the real world and make an impact through their innovative capabilities.

I once again heartily congratulate our graduating students assembled here on their academic distinctions. As they go out to serve the society I take this opportunity to remind them of the saying by Gurudev Rabindranath Tagore and I quote, “Higher education is that which does not merely give us information but makes our life in harmony with all existence.” True learning is all about being sympathetic and responsive to the suffering and needs of the poor and those who have been less fortunate than the educated persons. In this world, which has been torn apart by intolerance, lack of trust and violence what is needed is right action inspired by right thought, which higher education alone can generate. Herbert Spencer, the 19th century British social thinker, once said: “The great aim of education is not knowledge but action.” The action in question springs from a higher form of

knowledge that, Spencer thought, education embodies. He was critical of only that form of knowledge, which is neither purposeful nor actively good for the society.

I earnestly believe that our graduating young men and women will give a good account of themselves in their respective fields of profession and vocation, and will bring glory to themselves and to their alma mater. I encourage them to approach the future with renewed vigor, far-reaching vision, and expansive imagination. Let them be guided by the noble values, fueled by the vision of the University and committed to their mission in life. I wish our students happy and prosperous future and Sambalpur University all success in its endeavours.

Jai Hind.

25TH FEBRUARY 2014

THE XXVI CONVOCATION OF SAMBALPUR UNIVERSITY ODISHA

ADDRESS BY DR. ASHWANI KUMAR

HON'BLE GOVERNOR OF NAGALAND

Excellency Dr S.C. Jamir, Hon'ble Governor of Odisha and Chancellor of Sambalpur University

Vice Chancellor, Prof B.C. Barik

Distinguished Members of Syndicate, Senate and Academic Council

Registrar, Shri Mr. S. Dash

Members of the Faculty, Staff and Students of Sambalpur University

Ladies and Gentlemen,

1. It is a matter of pleasure and privilege for me to be here today. I consider it an honor to be a witness to the 26th Convocation of this great University. The conduct of these ceremonial proceedings has been most impressive and elegant. My congratulations to the Chancellor, Vice Chancellor, the Registrar and all the staff and students who have worked hard to put up such a grand show. Watching these academic ceremonies, I was transported back to my own days, when as a

student I received my graduation and post graduation certificates and was conferred the doctoral degree. Dear students, the importance of this occasion is not simply receiving the degrees dressed in ceremonial robes but the commitment to continue henceforth also on the path of discovery of knowledge, development of your mind and providing selfless service to society.

2. Heartiest of congratulations to all the graduating scholars, recipients of Certificates, Diplomas and Degrees for your well deserved attainments. In these days of intense competition and rapid changes, it is not easy to achieve success. I am sure you have worked very hard, burnt the mid night oil and in these efforts you had the support of your parents, teachers and this University. Now will start the next chapter of your life, where you are expected to be on your own. The hard work must not stop and the quest to gain more knowledge must continue. In fact now you are in a better position to create more knowledge and help others who are less fortunate than you. However, always remember and never forget your association with your alma mater, the Sambalpur University.

3. Dear students, right from our childhood we have been taught to respect three things in life. This has been told to us in our homes and taught to us in our schools. What are these three things which all of us must respect throughout our lives? Our scriptures also tell us to always respect these three. The first is to respect the parents, second is to respect the teachers and the third is to respect the Institutions from where you receive your education and employment.

4. The second principle that I want you to remember in life is never compromise on quality. Whatever you do, wherever you may go; whether working at a lower level or at the highest level; always remember to do everything to the best of your ability and produce work which is of the highest quality. Never compromise on quality of your efforts or the quality of your products. Remember in the long run your sincerity of efforts and your love for your work will always be rewarded. Whether you are a carpenter, a clerk or a crorepati, it is your sincerity, your love for your work which will take you to the highest position in life and profession.

5. The third lesson I want you to remember is honesty and hard work. The alphabet 'H' is common to both these words – honesty and hard work. These days many people want to achieve success quickly. They don't want to work hard and wait but they want to rise to the top immediately. Many boys and girls are looking for short cuts to success. If there was a shortcut, everyone will take the same short cut. The best example of hard work and honesty which comes to mind is that of Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam, the former President of India. He was born and brought up in a small village in Tamil Nadu. His parents were poor and uneducated. He studied in a village school up to class 10. He became the President of India not because of any political push or pull or money or muscle power, but because of sheer hard work, honesty and truthfulness. All persons who have been successful will tell you that there is no substitute for hard work. You may get temporary success by devious means. Wealth by corrupt means but

unless you work hard you will not be able to reach the great heights which your parents and teachers expect you to reach.

6. The fourth lesson for you to learn is 'Timeliness'. There are many sayings on Time. It is said we all have limited time at our disposal. Time and tide wait for none. Time once gone never comes back. Time is money. Time management has become an important topic in MBA curriculum. Remember for everyone there are only 24 hours in a day and seven days in week. But you will observe some people utilize the available time in a better manner and produce more useful results. Whether in personal life or in business, timeliness is not only important but also very vital for your success. You will be required to produce results in the given frame, without compromising quality. Arriving late at meetings; not dispatching goods on time; not responding to communications/messages/emails are considered signs of inefficiency, lethargy and indiscipline. In the university if you come late you may be marked absent but in the outside world if you are late you may lose your business or even your job.

7. The fifth and most important thing to remember is good behavior and humility. Once you leave this University, get a job or do business, you will be judged not only by your work and competence but also by your behavior, your habits and your humility. You may be the most intelligent, the most honest and the most hard working, but if your behavior is not to the liking of your bosses, subordinates or colleagues, your growth will get retarded. The future reputation of this University will now depend on your behavior and conduct.

8. I have been informed that this University has established strong linkages with various business units for long term partnership. Today there are 723 Universities in the country; 37,204 colleges and more than 28.6 million students in these institutions of higher learning. In such a scenario, only the best universities will survive and students will prefer those institutions which offer quality education and proper employment. Therefore, I would urge the university authorities to promote excellence in education by undertaking periodic internal and external assessment and obtaining national level accreditation. There is an immediate need to establish professional training and placement cells in all Colleges and Universities so that our youth are able to find jobs and livelihood opportunities immediately on completing their studies.

9. Though this is my first visit to western part of Odisha, but I find many similarities between Nagaland, my karam bhumi and Himachal Pradesh, my janum bhumi. I find the people here simple, straight forward and truthful. Their culture, tribal customs and traditions are unique. The landscape has natural beauty and I am told it is rich in mineral wealth. However, the region needs a lot more development and modern facilities. Despite these constraints the performance of the faculty, teachers and staff of this university has been outstanding. I think each one of you should be proud of your dedication and devotion to duty. And secondly each one of you should be proud of the fact that you have joined the noblest profession in the world. I am convinced that two professions are the noblest of all the professions in the world. These are Education and Teaching and

medicine and being a doctor. Whatever may be the constraints, problems and hurdles always remember that you are in the noblest and best profession that of teaching and your efforts are very important for the development and growth of our society.

10. In the end, let me once again congratulate all the students who have received their Certificates, Degrees and Diplomas today. We are all very happy in your success. May you prosper and do the best in whatever you undertake. We hope you will make all of us, especially your parents, teachers and this University proud of you. To the faculty and staff, may I say that it is because of your efforts and guidance that these students have done so well. Without your efforts and hard work this University would not have been where it is today and without your blessings these students would not have achieved what they have achieved.

12. Thank you for inviting me. Thank for a patient hearing. Jai Hind.