

**ADDRESS BY THIRU BANWARILAL PUROHIT, HON'BLE GOVERNOR OF  
TAMIL NADU AT THE 27<sup>TH</sup> CONVOCATION OF DR.M.G.R EDUCATIONAL AND  
RESEARCH INSTITUTE AT A.C.S MEDICAL COLLEGE & HOSPITAL CAMPUS,  
VELAPPANCHAVADI, CHENNAI ON 10.09.2018 AT 4.30 P.M**

**Anaivarukkum Maalai Vanakkam**

**Dr.A.C.Shanmugam**

Founder-Chancellor

Dr. M.G.R Educational & Research Institute

**Thiru. A.C.S. Arun Kumar**

President

Dr. M.G.R Educational & Research Institute

**Prof M.Vasagam**

Chancellor

**Dr.K.Meer Mustafa Hussain**

Vice-Chancellor

**Thiru. A.Ravikumar**

Secretary

A.C.S. Medical College & Hospital

**Dr.C.B.Palanivelu**

Registrar

**Distinguished Invitees**

**Ladies & Gentlemen**

It is a matter of happiness to be here today to address all of you on the occasion of the 27<sup>th</sup> Convocation of Dr.M.G.R. University.

This day is a special day for all the graduating students. I convey my warm greetings and best wishes to all of you and your family members on this happy occasion. You are all stepping into the wide world from the sheltered cocoon of the portals of the University. Having been equipped with academic qualifications and armed with the training that University education has given you, you are fully prepared to overcome the challenges that you may encounter. Step out with strength; lead from the front; conduct yourself with dignity, grace and discipline. The world is yours.

I am informed that the University which was established in 2003 has a diverse set of specialties covering various spheres of learning including Medicine, Dentistry, Engineering, Architecture, Management, Nursing, Physiotherapy, Pharmacy, Allied Health Sciences, Arts & Commerce, Humanities & Sciences and Hotel Management. This is indicative of the rapid growth that the institution has experienced as also the success of the public private partnership model in higher education that the State has so successfully practised.

Tamil Nadu has always had a rich tradition of scholarship. Even ordinarily planed families place great emphasis on education. This has had a direct impact on social development indices and on the economy. The State has a proud culture of research and innovation in the fields of science and technology. This is complemented by many historical firsts in the field of

humanities. It is therefore no surprise that the gross enrollment ratio in Higher Education in the State is about 46%, far higher than the national average of about 25%.

Tamil Nadu, by virtue of its excellent infrastructure in higher education, is well placed to become a model for other States to follow. With the joint coordinated support of the Central and State Governments, institutions in Tamil Nadu can soar to greater heights, making the State the educational hub of our country.

Many of the Universities for which I am the Chancellor, are reaching out to the Indian diaspora all over the world and working out partnerships with various universities. We have the potential to lead the people of the world from darkness to light. “*Thamasoma Jyothirgamaya*” is the saying in our spiritual texts. I am only echoing those words of wisdom.

We are living in exciting times. On one side India is faced with the challenge of providing the comprehensive benefits of education and health care to its entire population. At the same time the nation is reaching out to match the most developed countries in their achievements in space research, robotics and artificial intelligence. Universities are expected to provide the basic platform for creating the human resources that can enable this accomplishment of the entire range of achievements.

The University is named after Bharat Ratna Dr.M.G.Ramachandran. He was loved by the people of Tamil Nadu so much that till today nobody else has been able to match his record of never having been defeated during the tenure of his Chief Ministership which continued in an uninterrupted manner. His concern for the suffering and downtrodden was genuine. His attachment to the cause of uplifting women was unparalleled.

His administrative achievements endeared him to the common people.

He thus became a legend for his acts of generosity and kindness.

I am sure that all of you know about Dr. Kalam, who though born in an ordinary family in Rameswaram went on to become the President of India. His life was one of achieving excellence through diligence. He excelled as a scientist, as a patriot and as a leader among men. His love for children and students was unmatched. Every time he found an opportunity he would go and lecture the students in schools and colleges. Once when he was asked about the secret of his perennial enthusiasm and energy, he said every moment I keep thinking about what I can give to others. It is Bharat Ratnas Dr. Kalam and Dr. M.G.R, who through their work for the nation, stand as examples and role-models for the youth of Tamil Nadu.

Nations are built by Visionaries who through their lives which are characterized by compassion, hard work, patriotism and total commitment to the welfare of the people are able to inspire the people to engage themselves in nation building. We all have a great responsibility to build tomorrow's India, whose core competence in any field, be it technological process, industrial infrastructure, societal unity should be outstanding. The youth of the nation are its biggest asset. Let them think big. Our youth have to dream. Dreams get transformed into thoughts and thoughts result in action. Proactive action become the foundation for growth and development. Our young minds have to be ignited. For this the lives and teachings of persons like Abdul Kalam should guide us on our paths.

I gather that in today's Convocation 36 Ph.D. Scholars, 1969 Graduates, 285 Post-Graduates and 13 M.Phil. Scholars will be receiving their degrees.

The knowledge and degrees acquired by these graduands should be used for the benefit of mankind.

The path to progress is always illuminated by the lamp of education. Prosperity knocks at your door when people in society acquire the asset of education. All those assembled here, have benefited by this acquisition of knowledge. Let its benefits be now shared with the community so that India becomes a stronger healthier and more prosperous nation.

I congratulate the Chancellor, the Vice Chancellor and the organisers of this function for having arranged the Convocation in a fitting manner.

The teachers of the University deserve a special word of praise. We have all recently celebrated Teachers Day on September 5<sup>th</sup>, the birthday of Dr. Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan. His rise to eminence as a Bharat Ratna and as the President of India after starting his life as a School teacher should be an inspiration for them to persevere towards excellence. As Thomas Alwa Edison said and I quote 'Genius is 1% inspiration and 99% perspiration'. There can be no shortcut to success. Hard work combined with commitment and talent will always beget success. May you all, the students, teachers and management be successful in your lives and may your lives be dedicated to the task of making India a great nation.

NandriVanakkam

Jai Hind.