



**SRI PADMAVATI MAHILA VISVAVIDYALAYAM**

(Women's University)

TIRUPATI - 517 502, Andhra Pradesh

# 16<sup>th</sup> Convocation

**CONVOCAATION ADDRESS**

BY

**Dr. TESSY THOMAS**

**Outstanding Scientist, DRDO, Hyderabad**

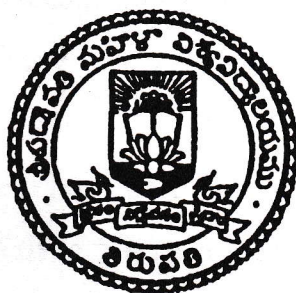
Monday the 10<sup>th</sup> August, 2015, 10.00 a.m.  
Indira Priyadarshini Auditorium, University Premises

# **SRI PADMAVATI MAHILA VISVAIDYALAYAM**

(WOMEN'S UNIVERSITY)

TIRUPATI - 517502, ANDHRA PRADESH

## **SIXTEENTH CONVOCATION**



## **CONVOCATION ADDRESS**

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**DR. TESSY THOMAS**

OUTSTANDING SCIENTIST  
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**Monday, the 10th August 2015, at 10.00 a.m.**

in the Indira Priyadarshini Auditorium

University Premises

His Excellency Sri E.S.L. Narasimhan, the Governor of Andhra Pradesh and Telangana and the Chancellor of Sri Padmavati Mahila Visvavidyalayam, Tirupati, Vice-Chancellor Prof. S. Rathna Kumari, Members of the Executive Council and Academic Senate, Registrar, Deans, Faculty Members, Staff, Students, Ladies and Gentlemen, my greetings to all of you.

I am very much delighted to participate in the 16<sup>th</sup> Convocation of Sri Padmavati Mahila Visvavidyalayam and take this opportunity to congratulate the graduating students and faculty members for their academic performance from this esteemed University. I am happy to note that Sri Padmavati Mahila Visvavidyalayam has been empowering the students with quality education, technical knowledge, skill, ability and the right attitude with value addition. The Convocation marks your transition from student to a professional and I can see the joy of accomplishments, in all of you. This day, the University feels proud, seeing the young girls coming out in flying colours with the Degrees in their hands to begin a new journey. As young graduates you are about to embark on your own extraordinary journey and create your own life adventures. A new chapter with new challenges and options are on your way, ahead. I am sure, all of you will be very successful in your field and I would like to quote Swami Vivekananda - "Do not look back, look forward! Infinite enthusiasm, infinite daring and infinite patience, then alone, can great deed, be achieved".

Traditionally, the role of women used to be of cooking, cleaning, bringing up children etc. They were looked upon as home makers and were denied access outside home. Today's women have made their mark in every field. Be it literature, arts, politics, sports or corporate sector, women are ready to take up challenges. Women are gaining wide acceptance as administrators and most importantly as decision makers. A woman, with her knowledge and expertise is capable to excel at various roles in her career.

India is credited with having the world's second largest population and with more than 60% below 35 years of age; the country has the potential to become a hub of trained manpower, provided this young population is given the right education and training. Some of you may be pursuing higher education, may take up jobs and some others may turn to be good entrepreneurs. But, whatever field you are in, provide both qualitative and quantitative output to the society leading to the nation's overall economic growth. It only implies that each and every individual's contribution will take our nation from developing to a developed nation.

Convocation day is an important day in the calendar of any educational institution. On this day the institution delivers on its promise by providing the nation with students who will render their services for the development of nation. You are now going to enter the real society and the real world. By this time, you would have created an emotional bonding with your teachers and friends, which will be everlasting and will enable you to scale further heights.

Students should be encouraged to read books for better analysis and understanding. R&D (Research and Development) is an important parameter to rate the development of a country. Our textbook knowledge is to be transformed to a practical application. The faculty members need to keep updated with the latest developments across the globe. A road map should be drawn and an Introspection, as to where I am, and, where I will be, after say 10 years? If such a clear road map is formed and at every stage revisiting this will yield a very fruitful result. The world outside is very competitive. You have to set standards for competence. There is a saying "*a bad workman never gets a good tool*". What it means? It shows the incompetence of the workman to execute the given task because he is always complaining the tool is not good.

The great challenge before the educational institutions is to act as a catalyst in the growth of quality education in the country. This is not only necessary for the economic growth of the country but also educational institutions should be the creators of knowledge and technology.

As a whole, Indian higher education is facing with challenges like the need for better institutes, infrastructure, faculty, more research intensive institutes and employability. The students should be trained in such a way that by the time they graduate they are ready to imbibe the responsibilities in industries. Today women are occupying top levels in various Government bodies, and some of them are even CEOs of the firms.

Women empowerment is a major action taken up by our Government and by expanding women-friendly public services, providing land and jobs for women and by increasing women's voice in decision-making control on violence against women is possible. The number of women leaders in India as well as abroad occupying top level administration are proactive. She binds the whole family in one thread. Similarly, at workplace she can balance a group, comprising of people, with different backgrounds and understanding. Not only in politics, women have made their impact in Science and Research, literature as well. *Madam Marie Curie* was the first and only person to be honored with two Nobel Prizes in Physics and Chemistry and has been an icon in the scientific world and has achieved many tributes and recognitions.

In the recent years, large number of universities and institutes of higher learning and research in various areas of science and technology have been started. Despite the increasing number of women in education, their participation in scientific research and higher levels of science is very low. Today, majority of women scientists are able to balance both their career and family responsibility. Nuclear family and lack of childcare facilities may have affected the qualified women scientists from continuing in science. Ministry of Science and Technology has adopted to offer special research grants and temporary positions for women scientists who had to quit their job for domestic reasons.

Factors responsible for women dropping out of science are:

- ◆ Shortage of suitable mentors and role models
- ◆ Few women in decision making
- ◆ Gender indiscrimination
- ◆ Lack of support from family
- ◆ Commitments towards family

Measures to encourage women in R & D sectors

- ◆ Imparting Emotional Intelligence Programme
- ◆ Technology exposure and know-how opportunities
- ◆ Leadership and Management Training Programme for women
- ◆ Empowerment of women
- ◆ Child care facilities on campus

My dear students,

You represent the very best and brightest from your university. My expectations from you are of a very high order not only as professionals, but also as intelligent and wise voices in the community you will now serve. This is the time we need the very best of truly educated minds, their skills and specialized knowledge, their patience, understanding, tolerance and above all compassion. May you bring prosperity to the nation. I know you are exceptionally mature and I am sure, you must have already decided on your path ahead. Here are few points that you may wish to keep in mind as you move along:

- i. Now that you are entering a new world of knowledge, you should have well defined goal as to what you want to be? For a successful career you need a focused mind, with proper health and determination to achieve your goal.
- ii. You should be determined enough to achieve your goal.
- iii. Failures may come your way, do not get disturbed with hurdles and failures. You have to build confidence to overcome difficulties and failures.
- iv. Learn from your failures and mistakes and promise never to repeat the mistakes.  
Then you are a "winner".

With these words, I wish you all a very successful innings in your future endeavours. My best wishes to all the students for success in the mission of developing quality technological human resource for the nation

Thank you &  
Jai Hind