

**Governor attends 3rd convocation of Cotton University**

**Graduates must act as facilitator for Viksit Bharat: Governor**

**Guwahati, March 5:** Assam Governor Shri Lakshman Prasad Acharya said that India is on the cusp of a transformative journey where the students who are the Amrit Santan of the nation should focus on the knowledge cutting edge technology, research and innovation to facilitate seamless transition of the country to Viksit Bharat.

Addressing the graduates on the 3rd convocation of the Cotton University here today, the Governor advised the students that in the Amrit Kaal the students must be armed with research, innovation and act as powerful facilitator to make the country truly developed. He also asked them to be focused to keep their culture, civilization and values alive. They should also preserve and nurture their diversity and at the same time embrace modern technology in shaping the future of the nation. He said, "In the coming times, it is you who will shoulder the responsibility of the country".

Referring to the greats like Srimanta Sankardeva and Shri Madhavdeva who have enriched Assam with their greatness, the Governor called upon the students to take inspiration from the values of these great people and do wonder for the state as the nation. He also asked them to emulate the values of Swami Vivekananda and take actions in materializing the objectives of "Ek Bharat, Shreshtha Bharat," "Atmanirbhar Bharat," and "Swasth Bharat," which according to him are central to the ideals of good governance as envisioned by Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi. Shri Acharya also stressed the need for the universities like Cotton University to prioritize research, innovation, skill development, and employment-oriented education, with an adequate emphasis on emerging technologies such as Artificial Intelligence (AI).

The Governor expressed immense pride in Cotton University's recent achievement of attaining 'A' grade in the NAAC evaluation and commended the institution for its continuous efforts to evolve and adapt to the changing academic landscape. He praised the university's focus on offering research-oriented and skill-based courses, including initiatives in climate science, performing arts, and coaching programs for NET and JRF.

Shri Acharya also asked the graduates to embody the values of love, compassion, justice, and selfless service, and become pioneers of progress, making both Assam and India proud. He extended his heartfelt congratulations to all graduates and their families on their achievements.

It may be mentioned that the honorary degree of D.Litt. has been conferred upon renowned journalist Kanak Sen Deka for his exemplary contributions to the field of journalism. A total of 3,001 students were conferred degrees during the convocation, including 86 Ph.D. scholars, 1,658 postgraduates, 1,240 undergraduates, and 17 diploma recipients. Additionally, 128 students were awarded with Gold Medals for their outstanding academic performance.

The convocation ceremony was attended by Vice-Chancellor of Maharashtra State Skills University Prof. Apoorva Palkar, Former Director of IIT Guwahati Prof. Gautam Barua, Vice-Chancellor of Cotton University Prof. Ramesh Chandra Deka, and other distinguished members of the university's academic and administrative bodies, including Deans, Heads of Departments, faculty members, and students.

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