

**Address of the Hon'ble Governor of Assam and Chancellor of the  
University at the 3<sup>rd</sup> Convocation of Krishna Kanta Handiqui  
State Open University**

**Date: 3<sup>rd</sup> February, 2019**

**Venue: Srimanta Sankardev International Auditorium,  
Kalakshetra, Panjabri**

Vice Chancellor of the university Dr.Hitesh Deka, Chief Guest and Vice Chancellor of IGNOU Prof.Nageshwar Rao, Guest of Honour Minsiter of Education Shri Siddhartha Bhattacharya, Registrar Dr. Arupjyoti Choudhury, Members of Board of Management, Members of Academic Council, Guests, Persons from the Media and most important of all – graduating students and their parents.

It is a matter of great pleasure and privilege for me to be present here at the 3<sup>rd</sup> Convocation of the Krishna Kanta Handiqui State Open University, a University established in the name of the legendary Oriental Scholar, a renowned Indologist and the illustrious son of Assam, Professor Krishna Kanta Handiqui. In this occasion, I congratulate all the graduating persons, recipients of honorary degrees, diplomas and medals for their well-deserved attainments. The importance of this occasion does not simply lie on receiving

degrees dressed with ceremonial robes but in the commitment to continue on the path of discovery of meaningful knowledge and development of your mind, most specifically, to provide selfless service to the society.

I would like to tell all the young men and women who are passing out, that you are fortunate to belong to this great country with a Young population. The 21<sup>st</sup> Century belongs to the Indian Youth, and the country will continue to grow till 2050. This University thoughtfully, named as Krishna Kanta Handiqui State Open University, was established by an Act of the Assam legislature with the objectives to provide access to higher education for large segments of the population, and in particular, the disadvantaged groups such as those living in remote and rural areas including working people, housewives and other adults who wish to upgrade or acquire knowledge through studies in various fields.

As an Open and Distance Learning institute, this University is well supported by other conventional learning modes of open and distance education such as face-to-face counselling, use of self-learning materials etc. Besides, the university also utilizes a ICT based learning tools like Radio Counselling, Phone-in programmes, Audio visual aids etc.



that have encouraged mobile-based and computer-based learning. To suit the learning needs of the 21<sup>st</sup> century, the University has developed and endeavoured to provide easily accessible modes of quality higher education and training with the use of latest educational inputs and technology.

Dear Students, I feel that open universities are boon to many of the students who are otherwise deprived of the fruits of formal education. Open Universities provide a sigh of relief to those students who can not afford to leave their bread-earning activities for education. So distance education comes as a blessing for such students. Also, the fee of a distance education degree may be much more affordable than the fee of a regular on-campus degree. Further, it is also a myth that students with lesser grades opt for Distance learning, meritorious students also opt for distance courses.

As the only Open University of the region, Krishna Kanta Handiqui State Open University is committed to provide quality higher education through Open and Distance Learning mode, and the university has made great strides since its inception in 2005. With the motto of 'Education

beyond Barriers’, the university, in order to cater to the needs of the learners across diverse background and milieu, has offered a number of academic programmes ranging from Certificate and Diploma programmes to Bachelor’s, Master’s, M.Phil and Ph.D programmes to about 1,70,000 learners till the end of 2018.

You all are indeed so fortunate to have received the Degree from Krishna Kanta Handiqui State Open University. In a short span of 12 years, this university has been able to scale new heights in providing access to higher education to a large diversified section of the society, besides also making its presence felt with the help of the exemplary role it has played to extol its social responsibility through various social activities. I am happy to note the University’s efforts to launch the “Jnan Taranga”—the first Community Radio service of the North East India in 2009; to provide education free of cost to the jail inmates as well as the differently able learners of our society; to form the “Mother Teresa Social Welfare Mission” under which the University has adopted five remote and backward tribal villages of the Rani Block; to provide Krishna Kanta Handiqui National Award and Krishna Kanta Handiqui National Fellowship to acknowledge those



personalities who could manage to carve a niche in the society by dint of their hard work and perseverance; to provide scholarship to female UPSC candidates who successfully cleared the Civil Services (Preliminary) examinations conducted by UPSC. I sincerely hope that in the coming years, Krishna Kanta Handiqui State Open University would continue to do its good work for the entire society and strive to be one of the best universities in the field of ODL and thereby bring laurels to the country and the state.

Dear students, the next chapter of your life starts now and you are at your own to arrive at your destinations. The hard work however, must not stop and the quest to gain more knowledge should continue. Because, you are in a better position to create and derive more knowledge and also help others who are less fortunate than you. Whatever you do, wherever you work, never compromise with the quality of your work. In the long run, your love for the work and sincerity of your efforts will always be rewarded. I believe, all of you will be able to attract abundant blessings of the Almighty and make great success in your professional and personal lives and become torch bearers in taking the society and state forward adhering to the words and deeds of

fundamental values of love, compassion and spirit of service. I also urge the university to impart value based education at all spheres of our educational journey.

The Universities imparting higher education has to face a new challenge under the changed global scenario where high premium is fixed on merit and skill. This requires the compulsions of inclusive growth. The weaker sections of the society are eagerly awaiting since long to go forward along with others. Friends, you should not take graduation as an end to your journey- rather it is the beginning of another journey where knowledge and skills acquired are put to test.

Before I conclude, I once again congratulate all the recipients of degrees, diplomas and certificates. We are all happy because of your success. May you prosper and attain more success in whatever you do or undertake in the near future.

**Jai Hind**