

## **Chairman's Message**

As the sixth batch of graduates formally gets their degrees, it is a time of joy and achievement for them, their teachers and their families. I congratulate the entire graduating batch on the day of their convocation ceremony, indeed a very special day for them.

Students all over the world wait for this big day – the day of graduation, the day of Convocation. It is a day of special significance for the Institute too. This day, the Institute feels proud at seeing the young boys and girls coming out in flying colors with Degrees in their hands to begin a new voyage.

As young graduates, you are about to embark on an extraordinary journey and create your life adventures. A new chapter is about to begin. A myriad of new challenges and options are on your horizons. This day will continue to remain as a milestone in your life's journey. From now onwards, you will be entering a new world of competition. You must know for sure that the competition will not end, and you must feel confident of meeting uncertainties and challenges and face those with a positive attitude. Swami Vivekananda said, "Do not look back, look forward! Infinite enthusiasm, infinite daring and infinite patience, then alone can a great deed be achieved". Nothing great was ever achieved without enthusiasm, and there is no substitute for hard work. I do not doubt that each one of you have imbibed these in your years at the Institute, along with knowledge and values. These are essential to your success, irrespective of the field you choose to work in. Also remember that the ultimate competition is with yourself: can you do better today than you did yesterday; can you be a better human being; can you further the qualities that are part of basic good values?

The friendships and networks you have developed over the course of your programme here will doubtless be lifelong ones that you can draw on. You have been a valued member of our vibrant IIIT-Delhi family. I invite you to continue your relationship with the institute in which you have spent so much time, put in hard work and energy, and made so many friends. Our Alumni Association of more than 1100 graduates is an invaluable resource, which can serve you well as you embark on your career, with connections across all organisations in India and overseas. I urge you to take advantage of this, and also contribute to this extraordinary community of international alumni, all of whom began their professional lives right here, from this Institute.

Own alums are our ambassadors, and it is their achievements which will sustain and develop the image of IIIT-Delhi. I am sure that through their successes, values, and behavior, they will bring even greater sheen to the reputation of IIIT-Delhi. As you step into the outside world, we look upon you as one more ambassador of the Institute.

Under the dynamic leadership of the Director, Prof Pankaj Jalote, IIIT-Delhi has already won wide recognition in the few years of existence. It is now considered amongst the academic leaders in our field of activity. Our collaborations – both national and international – provide unique opportunities to both students and faculty. In all this, my colleagues in the Board of Governors have played a significant role. Their guidance, advice, and direction have been invaluable. I must also acknowledge the help and support of our Chancellor – Lt. Governor of Delhi, the Government of NCT Delhi and our entire management.

I sincerely appreciate the enthusiasm and dedication of all our students, research scholars, officers and faculty members in shaping and building a young institution. I also want to especially acknowledge the role of the parents/guardians of our students, who have not only supported their wards but shown faith in the IIITD. Congratulations once again to the young graduates and my best wishes for happiness and fulfillment.