



## ***Chief Guest's Message for IIIT-D's 8<sup>th</sup> Convocation***

### **Success in the Digital Era needs a Changed Mindset**

The digital transformation market globally is growing at a fast-paced CAGR of 24.3%. Enterprises are down-scaling legacy systems rapidly and transitioning to the digital way of doing things. Though, the pace of change will vary across industries but it's only a matter of time when digital transformation gets to be all-encompassing. The opportunities are tremendous.

However, there is a secret sauce for successful digital transformation and it's not technology. The success of digital transformations depend instead of people...yes, us humans. But it also requires people with very different skills from what we have today. Talent in the Digital Era will be defined not by how much we know, but how fast we can learn. Given the pace at which technology is changing, there is no end point to learning. Our competitive advantage will be determined by our ability to keep up with the new trends and fully utilize the advancement in tech to solve problems that have not yet been solved.

We are also entering the age of bilinguals. Excellence in technology alone will not cut it. Engineers will also need to collaborate, communicate, problem solve like never before. Infact the so called soft skills will be the key differentiator.

You are entering the workforce at a very interesting time. Competition will be based on talent and there will be a premium on the "right attitude" and "learnability" along with the required tech skills. Industry wants change agents... people who can see what others do not see and sieze the opportunity to disrupt status quo before you get disrupted by competition.

As you leave this wonderful institute, your learning is just beginning. The best advice I can give you is never miss a good crisis or opportunity to learn from. Technology advancements will continue to change everything we do and the pace will only get faster. If you just look at the last few years, almost every segment of our lives has been impacted by digital – buying online, ordering food, taxi-rides, tele-medicine, learning, entertainment, travel and the list goes on. And we have just touched the tip of the iceberg.

You have a choice ahead of you- do you become a catalyst for change or do you let change happen to you?

Wish you the very best in your journey ahead. The industry needs new thinking, new ideas, new risk taking, new skills....in sum a new mindset to keep up with the pace of change. It's no more about the big fish eating the small fish. It's about being the fastest fish in the ocean. Agility and speed trumps everything else. Be the one that drives the change.

Thank you!