



Message from the Chairperson for IIIT-Delhi's 9th Convocation

My heartiest congratulations to the Graduating Batch of 2020 from the virtual dais of the 9th Convocation Ceremony of IIIT-Delhi!

Graduation or post-graduation is amongst the most important milestones in students' academic lives. This is an occasion of celebration and triumph that marks the cessation of one phase of the educational journey and genesis of the next. In some parts of the world, this day is called 'Commencement Day', an absolutely apt name for the event, as it is indeed a moment to pause and start afresh – a moment to look back at the memories made and to look ahead to the dreams designed.

In the light of the coronavirus pandemic, the Graduating Batch of 2020 has gone through many distinctive circumstances. From finishing your last semester on-line to missing out on the traditional graduation ceremony, this has certainly been a unique set of circumstances. However, regardless of these challenging times, each one of you has met the rigorous academic standards of our institution to earn an undergraduate degree, a master's degree, or a doctorate. We recognize your accomplishment and, on our part, have left no stone unturned to make this day one of the most memorable moments of your lives.

Today, as we celebrate our 9th Convocation Ceremony, I would like to congratulate each of you for your triumphant academic journey. This success is undoubtedly the outcome of your grit and perseverance, the unfailing support of your family, the dedication of our diligent faculty who gave boundless time igniting young minds, also ensuring a balance in your psychological well-being and academic achievements at the same time, and the efficient staff members whose commitment and hard work has always ensured a supportive environment in the Institute.

My dear friends, learning is not confined to the classroom or the portals of this Institute; it is a life-long process. No case studies can be better than your own life's experiences. Today's Convocation does not mark the destination of your journey in learning; it is but a way-stop. So, as you step out into the world of unlimited challenges taxing you every moment, I am sure that by now you have developed the ability to plumb your own depths, reflect on your own values, and startle yourself with a plethora of competencies beyond your own estimation. Remember, it is through the practice of contemplation that sound judgment emanates.

These are unprecedented times, with problems on many fronts. As we face a difficult health scenario, and a grim economy, let us not be disheartened. Instead, more than ever, this is your chance to take the initiative, overcome the challenges, and grasp the many opportunities. It is a time when you can shape the future.

Through your years on this campus, you have earned your academic spurs, and have also come to share our aim of making a positive impact on society. In sync with IIIT-Delhi's philosophy of creating Thought Leaders and Change Masters, we trust that you will be respected for your knowledge, skills and your societal contribution. We hope that you will leverage your capabilities to chart out a fulfilling path for yourself, even as you become a beacon for others to follow.

For you, energetic would-be professionals, this day is an epitome of pride, as it is for the Institute too. It is for the first time in the history of the Institute that we have organized a virtual graduation ceremony. I wish to acknowledge the role of our Director, Prof. Ranjan Bose, Registrar, Deans, Faculty and all officers and staff for their efforts in successfully planning and executing this event. I use this opportunity to thank my colleagues on the Board of Governors for their strong support and contribution to the development of the Institute. I would also like to express my gratitude to the Government of NCTD and to our Chancellor (the Lieutenant Governor of Delhi) for their unfaltering and continuing support over the years.

Graduating friends, you are our pride and joy! Even as you transition from students to alumni, you remain – today and forever - members of the IIIT-D family. I wish to remind all you ladies and gentlemen that this is your home. You will always be welcome here to share your wisdom and experiences, and delight us with the stories of your success.

I wish you a happy and successful life ahead!

Kiran Karnik

Chairperson, Board of Governors