

# ALAGAPPA UNIVERSITY

(Accredited with "A+" Grade by NAAC (CGPA:3.64) in the Third Cycle & Graded as Category-I University and  
Granted Autonomy by MHRD-UGC)  
KARAIKUDI - 630 003

Date :1.11.2018

## 31<sup>st</sup> Convocation of Alagappa University

The 31<sup>st</sup> Convocation of Alagappa University was held on Thursday, the 1<sup>st</sup> of November 2018 at 1.15 p.m. in the University Convocation Hall.



Hon'ble Governor of Tamil Nadu and Chancellor of Alagappa University Thiru.Banwarilal Purohit presided over the function and gave away the degrees to the new graduates.

Hon'ble Minister for Higher Education, Government of Tamil Nadu and Pro-Chancellor of Alagappa University Thiru K.P.Anbalagan graced the occasion and offered felicitations.

Padma Vibhusan Dr.R.Chidambaram, Former Principal Scientific Advisor to Government of India, Chairman, Atomic Energy Commission and Director, Bhabha Atomic Research Centre, Mumbai delivered the Convocation Address.

Prof. N.Rajendran, Vice-Chancellor, Alagappa University, delivered the Welcome Address and recounted the achievements, activities and programmes of the University.

2,435 regular students from the University Departments, 10,290 students from the Affiliated Colleges, 843 students from the Collaborative Programmes and 15,318 students from the Distance Education stream received their degrees during this convocation. In total, 28,886

students were conferred with the degrees, of which 10,178 graduates were male while 18,708 were female.

In this convocation, 272 candidates including 129 Ph.D., researchers from the University Departments & Affiliated Colleges received their degrees in person.

Of the 272 candidates, 33 were gold medallists and 110 were University Rank holders. They received their Degrees from the Hon'ble Governor of Tamil Nadu.

Thiru G.Baskaran, Hon'ble Minister for Khadi and Village Industries Board, Thiru.Mangat Ram Sharma, Principal Secretary to Higher Education, Government of Tamil Nadu, Thiru.J.Jayakanthan, District Collector and Higher Police Officials graced the occasion by their presence.

In his Welcome Address, Prof. N.Rajendran, Vice-Chancellor, recounted briefly the significant achievements and activities that happened at the University during the year 2018. He said the University has secured the 20<sup>th</sup> place in QS INDIA Rankings, 104<sup>th</sup> position in QS BRICS Rankings and 216<sup>th</sup> place in QS ASIA Rankings. The University has been accorded 4<sup>th</sup> place in SWACHH Campus Ranking 2018 for maintaining, promoting and encouraging Swachhta culture in the University. He added that during this academic year the Department of Bio-medical Sciences and Department of Computational Logistics have been established. The University is offering 205 programmes of study in regular mode of which 54 programmes have been added during this year. The University is offering 66 programmes through distance education mode which includes 19 programmes added during this academic year. Six new skill development programmes have been added during 2018-19 to the existing 13 programmes. Classes on Yoga, Soft Skills and Library Hours have been made mandatory for all the students in all the 39 Departments from this academic year. The University has established Start-Up Cells. It has also established a Digital Education Cell to promote Massive Open Online Courses (MOOCs). Fuel-free solid waste disposal units have been established in four different places on the campus. A skill development institute, a placement cell and a student's talent bank are functioning very effectively.

Hon'ble Minister for Higher Education Thiru K.P.Anbalagan, Govt. of Tamil Nadu, while offering his felicitations, said quoting an all India survey of higher education released by the MHRD for the year 2017-18 that Tamil Nadu is in the forefront in offering higher education. He added owing to the Tamil Nadu Government's efforts Tamil Nadu tops the list in the gross enrollment of students in higher educational institutions with 48.6 percent in 2017-18 while the GER at the national level is 25.8 percent only. The State, he said, gives prime importance to women's education and as a result the Gross Enrollment Ratio (GER) of women studying in higher educational institutions is 48.2 percent in Tamil Nadu whereas the GER of women pursuing higher education at the national level is only 25.4 percent. He added that there are 58 Universities and 2472 Colleges in Tamil Nadu. By establishing 76 new colleges in the last seven years, the Government of Tamil Nadu has created a record and a history. He said he was happy to note that Alagappa University is one of the four Universities selected for receiving RUSA - PHASE -II grant and lauded the staff and students for this achievement. He exhorted the new grandaunts to develop enormous self confidence. "With self-confidence you can achieve anything. Do hard work with discipline. Success will be yours" he added.

While delivering the Convocation Address, Padma Vibhushan Dr.R.Chidambaram, Former Principal Scientific Advisor to Government of India, Chairman, Atomic Energy Commission and Director, Bhabha Atomic Research Centre, Mumbai said that the India of our dreams is an India which is economically and scientifically advanced and militarily strong... an India where there is energy security, water security, food security and health security. **Redefining the parameters of Human Development Index (HDI) the distinguished speaker included an enormous increase**

in female literacy and per capita electricity consumption in India as the two major components of development indicators that need to be concentrated. Only with an increase in these two areas or segments that India could be considered as a developed nation. He stated: "India's per capita electricity consumption has to increase by six to eight times before India can become a 'developed' country in the fullest sense of the term. And this increase in electricity production has to be done in the context of the climate change threat. All energy options are important for India, particularly, zero-carbon emission options like nuclear and renewables and also relatively lower carbon emission fossil fuel options like advanced ultra-supercritical thermal plants burning coal". In the context of serious threat of global warming, low carbon electricity supply should increase, he added. It should comprise renewable energy, nuclear and CCS including Bio energy with CO<sub>2</sub> capture. He added that the Indian Government is strongly promoting renewable energy particularly Solar and Nuclear to mitigate the global warming threat.

Stressing the importance of increasing the interaction between academia and industry in India, he said that Indian industry is waiting for new knowledge coming out of the academic system. India is changing rapidly and industry is growing and Universities should be ready to provide the needed expertise and knowledge to the industry. He concluded his speech by saying that a judicious mix of basic research, applied research, technology development, research and development innovation backed by high quality manufacturing skills would create a conducive eco system for our country's progress.

Prof.H.Gurumallesh Prabu

REGISTRAR