

Address to Be Delivered

By

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On the Occasion Of

Thirtieth Convocation

on December 17, 2021

Mr Shrikant Madhav Vaidya, Chairman, IndianOil Limited, the Chief Guest of today's function; Dr Singh, Director General of the University; distinguished members of the Board of Governors; august members of the Academic Council; guests; faculty and staff members; graduating students; their parents and family members; alumni; representatives of the media; ladies and gentlemen.

It gives me great pleasure in congratulating the graduating students of the Institutes of Technology, Management, Pharmacy, Science, Law, Architecture and Planning, Commerce, and Design and those who have successfully completed their programmes in different disciplines from the University. My special compliments to PhD graduates who have pursued serious scholarship. At the outset, I would like to praise the parents who have supported their children during their studies.

It is my pleasure to introduce Mr Vaidya, the Chief Guest. He is a Chemical Engineer, with over 35 years of experience in the Oil and Gas sector, with proficiency in refinery-petrochemicals integration.

Mr Vaidya spearheaded the successful rollout of BS-VI grade transport fuels across the country. In the past, no nation had achieved the feat of moving from BS-IV to BS-VI grade fuels in a record time of three years.

Under his stewardship, IndianOil is undertaking capacity expansion of refineries with petrochemical integration. Further, the company has expanded its value-added offerings for the customers, including India's first 100 octane premium gasoline, differentiated LPG, etc. Various customer-centric measures and the introduction of 'The IndianOil Rhino' as the Company's mascot, have revitalised Brand IndianOil.

With future-ready business acumen and a 'people-first' leadership approach, Mr Vaidya is charting IndianOil's evolution as an integrated energy major. He is a firm believer in the power of innovation, digitalisation and ability for pursuing futuristic, sustainable technologies for a better world. Aligned with this agenda, IndianOil is pioneering the hydrogen economy and is setting up India's first Green Hydrogen Plant at Mathura; as well as forays into natural gas, renewables and bio energy.

Mr Vaidya is the Non-Executive Chairman of IndianOil's subsidiary, Chennai Petroleum Corporation Ltd. and the Joint Venture Companies - Hindustan Urvarak & Rasayan Ltd, Ratnagiri Refinery & Petrochemicals Ltd. and IndianOil Tanking Ltd. He is a Non-Executive Director on the Board of Petronet LNG Ltd. Mr SM Vaidya also holds the position of the First Vice President of the World LPG Association, Paris.

Dear graduating students, we are still facing the danger of Covid-19 pandemic. It has badly affected several families and hindered the progress of the nation. In such situation, your responsibility increases to help the community members and also to ensure that the society does not further suffer from the pandemic. A great country can be made by the great contribution of its citizens. Each one of you have to walk an extra mile to help the community and to participate in civic activities to enhance the quality of life of people. A responsible citizen is known by the work he has done for fellow citizens.

I understand that some of you have chosen to opt for higher studies, while the rest of you have decided to opt for a career in the corporate world. Today life long learning is the only solution to cope with the rapidly changing economic and technology scenario. Job demands are changing fast. It is difficult to predict the future of work. Experts state that almost one third of current jobs will vanish by the next decade. Similarly, one third of the jobs will be totally new after a decade. It poses several

challenges for the youth like you. If you continuously upgrade your capabilities and develop new ways of thinking, you can master the new challenges.

Lastly, dear graduating students, I would like to share with you that the best investment is the investment in the Self. You must focus on your personal, physical, social, and spiritual development. When you are internally strong, you can overcome any obstacle. On the other hand, an internally weak person cannot solve even small problems of life. It is an irony that many people focus only on career and earnings. Their approach is one-sided. The effectiveness of people comes from inside-out, not the other way. Therefore, I urge you to develop your internal resources and be holistic in your life.

Dear students, I would again like to congratulate you and wish you success and progress in your personal and professional lives. Jai Hind.