

Address of Dr.V.Ravichandiran,Director,NIPER-Kolkata at 5th Convocation on 04.09.2017(Monday).



Respected the Chairperson i/c Steering Committee for 5th convocation NIPER Kolkata, Prof. Kiran Kalia, Chief Guest of today's Convocation Dr. Vishwa Mohan Katoch, Chairman, BoG, NIPER-Mohali, Special Guest of the Convocation Dr. Shailesh Ayyangar, President-OPPI, Managing Director of Sanofi India (P) Ltd., Guest of honours Dr. Samit Chattopadhyay, Director CSIR-IICB, Dr. V. Nagarajan, Member, Steering Committee and Dr. Sanni Raju, CEO of Natreon Inc. USA, Dr. A. Muruganandam, Director R&D, Natreon Inc., Member of Steering Committee, Directors of NIPERs, Dr. A. Raghuram Rao, Director, NIPER-Mohali, Dr. Swaran Jeet Singh Flora, Director, NIPER-Raebareli, Dr. U. S. N. Murthy, Director, NIPER-Guwahati, Dr. Bhabatosh Biswas, Vice-Chancellor, West Bengal University of Health Sciences, distinguished Scientists, invited industry leaders, faculty, Registrar, staff and most importantly graduating students, current students and Research Scholars of NIPER Kolkata.

At the outset I congratulate the graduated scholars of 2016 and 2017 batch for choosing career in Pharmaceutical Sciences which is socially important and associated with human life.

On this august gathering, I have the honour and privilege to welcome Chief Guest Dr. Vishwa Mohan Katoch, Chairman, BoG, NIPER-Mohali, Special Guest Dr. Shailesh Ayyangar, President-OPPI, Managing Director of Sanofi India (P) Ltd, Dr. Siddhartha Roy, Director of Bose institute and Guest of Honours on the dais and off the dais. The distinguished gathering of all invited industry CEO's, MD, Dignitaries, Vice-Chancellors, Former Vice - Chancellors, Shri Chandraiah MD BCPL, Dr. Jayram Hazra, Director of Central Ayurveda research Institute for Drug Development (CARIDD), Dr.

Shanta Dutta, Director of NICED, Dr. R. N. Chaudhuri, Director AIH&PH ,Dr. Santanu Battachariya, Director of Indian Association for the Cultivation of Science, Dr. Sanni Raju, Dr.Ajith K Mohanthy, Director of Saha Institute of Nuclear Physics, Dr. Nakul Verma, Sr. Director of Sanofi India (P) Ltd., Distinguished Scientists, Staff of IICB, Cultivation Science, Jadavpur University, Calcutta University, Bose Institute, Fellows, Scholars and all others, who are kind to respond to our invitation to be present and grace the occasion of 5th Convocation of NIPER-Kolkata to confer M.S.(Pharm.) Degrees to the passed out students during the year 2016 and 2017.

We hereby acknowledge the service and resources of CSIR-IICB premier globally recognized institute of CSIR made available to us as a mentor institute to tide over the most critical period since inception in 2007 till date. I am very fortunate to be part of the activities of NIPER establishment in Kolkata, a city of joy and metropolis per excellence and globally recognised as a city with rich academic culture and where several of unique scientists and the noble laureates of India worked in this place, in addition great scientific minds like Dr. Meghnad Saha, Prof. Satyendra Nath Bose, Dr. B. C. Roy, Acharya Prafulla Chandra Ray and Acharya Jagadish Chandra Bose to name a few.

The National Institute of Pharmaceutical Education and Research Kolkata (NIPER-Kolkata) was established in 2007 under the aegis of Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers as an institute of National importance by the Government of India through Act of Parliament (NIPER Act 1998 and NIPER Amendment Act 2007).

The main objective of NIPER-Kolkata are harmonizing the level of Pharmaceutical Education and Research by training the future teachers, research scientists and managers for the modern industry and profession, collaboration with Indian industry to meet the global challenges, national and international collaborative research and conducting programmes on drug surveillance, community pharmacy, pharmaceutical management etc.

NIPER-Kolkata conducts three specialities M.S. (Pharm.) and Ph.D. courses in Medicinal Chemistry, Natural Products and Pharmacoinformatics. In total 364 students had graduated plus currently two batches of students are pursuing their courses.

Research

Active research areas, synthetic and plant based drug discovery, immunology and immune diagnostics cellular and molecular biology, recombinant DNA technology and Monoclonal antibody technology, novel drug delivery system, product development, chemical and biochemical process technology etc.

Research publications of the institute: 51 numbers of research papers have been published in renowned international journals from the project work

of the institute scholars and faculty in recognition of this significant input to country's Drug industry covering drug development and research. The Institute has established Ph.D. program from the academic year 2016-17 in three academic disciplines of pharmaceuticals science and 10 students have been admitted for the Ph.D. programme.

In National Eligibility Test for Ph.D. admission, NIPER-JEE 2016, three Students of this Institute secured 1st and 2nd positions and the same success record was repeated in NIPER-JEE 2017 too.

NIPER-Kolkata has created a history by introducing a course curriculum on Rare Diseases at the Masters level leading to 2 credits which is first time in the global context, on the initiative of the Ministry the course curriculum has been designed by the NIPER-Kolkata with guidance of university of Minnesota, USA.

NIPER-Kolkata has a Placement Cell and I am pleased to say that most of the students have been placed through the Campus Interviews. In fact, more than 20% of the students opted for Research and rest are placed in various industries and academic institutions.

I would also like to add that 3 students of current batch of M.S.(Pharm.) have been engaged at Sanofi India (P) Ltd., 3 are at Chembiotek while 2 others students at Natreon Inc. for one year project work.

Awards:

A Certificate of achievement, Gold award, has been awarded to Prof. V. Ravichandiran Director NIPER-Kolkata by Universiti Teknologi PETRONAS (UTP).

Competitive Research Grants:

In implementation of our commitment in the financial year 2016-17 NIPER-Kolkata received five research projects from DST of total worth of Rs. 1,71,86,000/-. The research activities of these projects are undergoing at NIPER-Kolkata being host institute.

Academy-Industry Partnership:

NIPER-Kolkata made Memorandum of Understanding with Industry agreement Signed during Rashtrapati Visitor's Conference, Nov. 2016:

ASG Biochem Pvt. Ltd., Kolkata

Natreon Inc. USA, Kolkata

Sanofi India (P) Ltd. Mumbai

Bengal Chemical and Pharmaceuticals Ltd., Kolkata – Nov 2015

The following are the key objectives in MoUs:

Participate in revision or formulation of curriculum for a Post-Graduate (M.S.) / Ph.D. programme

Provide opportunities of internship or project work to NIPER Kolkata M.S./ Ph.D. students at manufacturing sites

Ensure association of R&D heads with the dissertation work of NIPER Students

Provide career growth opportunities, undertake collaborative research activities in identified areas such as repurposing of existing pharmaceuticals ,novel small Molecules for anti-diabetics and drug resistant tuberculosis ,API by Synthetic Biology / Cell Factory , Phyto-Pharmaceuticals, rare diseases of public health Importance ,

Immediate requirements to equip the laboratory has been organised in phase wise manner at CSIR-IICB, BCPL Biology Laboratory to the tune of Rs. 4.5 Crores. Also, a MoU has been signed between the NIPER-Kolkata and Bengal Chemicals and Pharmaceutical Limited (BCPL), Kolkata on a 10 years lease of a three storied building having 15000 Sq.ft. floor area situated at Chunilal Bhawan, 168, Maniktala Main Road, Kolkata-700054.

Dedicated Laboratory and lecture hall at CSIR-IICB have been organised to attend the academic requirement with the approval of the Ministry. Additional resources organised to attend the requirement for strengthening PG project with various other Institute like IIT-BHU (Varanasi), IIT-Madras, IGIB-New Delhi, AIIMS-New Delhi and NIB-Noida.

Last but not least, beside the infrastructural difficulties the Institute is facing but we have taken serious efforts to implement various initiatives of the Government of India such as, implementation of PFMS, DBT and e-tendering for a transparent procurement system at NIPER-Kolkata.

To end, dear students, have a successful and satisfying life. We have given you a good launching pad in very difficult circumstances. While excelling in your own pursuits, keep engaged and contribute to the Institute's growth of excellence.

My heartfelt best wishes and thanks to all the participants of this 5th Convocation of NIPER-Kolkata.

I wish to acknowledge the committed efforts of Department of Pharmaceuticals, Ministry of Chemical and Fertilizers, Govt. of India for strengthening the institute activities.

Thank you to one and all!!!