

**ADDRESS BY THE HON'BLE PRESIDENT OF INDIA
SMT. DROUPADI MURMU
AT THE FIRST CONVOCATION OF THE CENTRAL UNIVERSITY OF
ANDHRA PRADESH**

Ananthapuramu: 1 July 2026

I am delighted to be with you today in the historic city of Ananthapuramu. This district occupies a special place in the history of Andhra Pradesh, known for its rich heritage and the impressive architecture of the Vijayanagara empire. I am happy to share that it is also associated with two of my distinguished predecessors. Dr. Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan taught at the Government College here, while Dr. Neelam Sanjiva Reddy hailed from this district. Both are remembered as great sons of India whose lives continue to inspire us.

It gives me immense pleasure to participate in the first convocation of the Central University of Andhra Pradesh. This is not only a day of celebration but also a defining milestone in the journey of this young institution. For the graduating students, it is the culmination of years of dedication, perseverance and hard work. You entered this university with dreams, and today you leave with knowledge, confidence and a degree that open new doors of opportunity for you. I congratulate all the students who have received their degrees. I convey my special appreciation for the gold medal winners. I have observed that girls have outperformed boys in securing gold medals. Their achievement reflects the rising aspirations and determination of young women in our country.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I am pleased to know that this university has developed a long-term vision to become a future-ready institution. Its commitment to the Sustainable Development Goals, especially to those on quality education, reflects a sense of responsibility towards inclusive and

equitable development. I am confident that this university will emerge as a centre of excellence and contribute significantly to the realisation of the vision of Viksit Bharat by 2047.

I am told that students from most of the States are studying here. Thus, this University brings together different languages and traditions, creating a vibrant environment where unity in diversity is experienced by students every day. Such interactions enrich learning and strengthen the bonds that unite our nation.

Dear Students,

As you celebrate your achievements today, I urge you to pause for a moment to remember the people who made your journey possible. Your success is the result of your own hard work, but it has also been shaped by the sacrifices of your parents, the guidance of your teachers and the support of society. Therefore, you have a responsibility to give back to the society. Whether you become entrepreneurs generating employment, scientists driving innovation, public servants working for the people, or philanthropists serving society, let your learning become a source of strength for the underprivileged.

As the very first batch of graduates, you occupy a unique place in the journey of this university. The reputation of this institution will be shaped by your achievements, your conduct and your contributions to society. Wherever life takes you, you should remain connected to this institution. You are the ambassadors of this university.

You are entering a world that is changing at an unprecedented pace. Technological advancements are transforming every sector. In such a rapidly changing world, learning cannot and should not end with acquiring a degree. The inclination to continuously adapt to emerging technologies will be one of your greatest strengths. You should cultivate the courage to explore new ideas and acquire new knowledge. Let perseverance be your valued strength.

I have been told that this university has introduced Artificial Intelligence and Data Science as compulsory courses for undergraduate and postgraduate students. Such new disciplines will prepare our youth for the opportunities and challenges of the future.

Our learning-oriented, resilient and innovative youth are our precious national assets. By combining their knowledge with creativity, determination and a sense of responsibility, our youth can transform challenges into opportunities and contribute to building a more inclusive and prosperous India.

Dear students,

You are going to begin your careers at a transformative juncture when India is moving confidently towards becoming a developed nation by 2047. This vision of Viksit Bharat can be realised only through the energy, talent and commitment of our youth. Each one of you is an architect of that future. Whatever path you choose, you should pursue excellence with dedication and integrity.

Internalizing ethical values will be of the greatest help. Honesty, compassion, empathy and respect for nature are not only lofty moral ideals. They are also the foundation of holistic development. These qualities will enable you to enrich your life and contribute meaningfully to society and the nation.

May you achieve success in your chosen fields, uphold the highest values, and contribute to achieving ambitious national goals. I extend my best wishes to all the graduating students for a bright, fulfilling and meaningful future.

Thank you,
Jai Hind!
Jai Bharat!