

**8th Convocation Speech
Nagaland University
Hqrs:Lumami
Nagaland**



By

Prof. Jagadish Kumar Patnaik

*Hon'ble Vice Chancellor
Nagaland University*

**8th CONVOCATION
FRIDAY, 6TH MARCH 2026**

Welcome Address and Report by the Vice-Chancellor

Esteemed, Hon'ble Vice President of India, Shri. C. P. Radhakrishnan Ji.

Hon'ble Governor of Nagaland and Chief Rector of Nagaland University, Shri. Ajay Kumar Bhalla Ji.

Hon'ble Chancellor, Shri. Samudra Gupta Kashyap Ji.

Distinguished Members of the Statutory Bodies, esteemed faculty, honored guests, parents, Members of Press, and dear graduating students,

Namaskar and a very Good Morning to you all.

It is my proud privilege to welcome you to the **8th Convocation of Nagaland University.**

We are deeply honoured by the august presence of our distinguished dignitaries. Your presence inspires our students and strengthens the academic spirit of this great institution.

On behalf of the entire University fraternity, I extend our heartfelt gratitude to all distinguished guests for gracing this ceremony with your presence.

Today is a day of celebration - but above all, it is a day of achievement for our graduates. I extend my heartfelt congratulations to each one of you. Your degree represents

not only academic success, but perseverance, resilience, and commitment.

Introduction

Established in 1994, through an Act of Parliament (No.35 of 1989), Nagaland University continues to grow as the only Central University in the State. From modest beginnings, it has developed into a vibrant institution of higher learning.

The University today comprises **six Schools of Studies, forty-three Departments, and five UGC Centers of Studies**, supported by **239 faculty members**, with additional recruitment underway. Our faculty members come from diverse parts of the country, enriching the University with academic diversity and strengthening the spirit of national integration.

This year, we are awarding degrees to **6884 students**, including:

- 107 Ph.D. scholars
- 825 Postgraduate students
- 846 graduates from professional programmes
- 5,106 Undergraduate students

Among them, **54 Gold Medalists** will be honored for academic excellence. I congratulate them warmly for setting high standards of achievement.

Academic and Research

Nagaland University serves more than **26,000 undergraduate students across 77 affiliated colleges**; along with postgraduate and research scholars. We remain committed to the transformative vision of the National Education Policy 2020. Through credit transfer systems and digital platforms like SWAYAM, we are expanding access, flexibility, and academic innovation.

Research remains a central pillar of our growth. We are currently implementing **53 externally funded research projects**, and this year alone we secured **15 new projects** supported by premier agencies such as DBT, DST, ICAR, ICSSR, DRDO, CSIR and others. These projects span sciences, agriculture, humanities, social sciences, and strategic research. Also, 30 internal research projects are being supported by Nagaland University.

I am proud to share that **four Professors of Nagaland University** continue to be listed among the **Top 2%**

Scientists of the World as per Stanford ranking.

The academic year 2025–2026 has been marked by exceptional research productivity and growing innovation strength, reinforcing the institution's position as a center of academic excellence and knowledge creation.

Our faculty members have demonstrated remarkable scholarly output, contributing significantly to high-impact journals indexed in globally recognized databases. A total of **320 research articles** were published in **Scopus-indexed journals**, while **106 articles** appeared in **Web of Science-indexed journals**, reflecting the strong global visibility and citation potential of our research.

At the national level, faculty contributions remained equally robust, with **118 publications in UGC-CARE-listed journals** and **184 articles in other peer-reviewed refereed journals**. Further strengthening our knowledge dissemination efforts, faculty members published **201 books and book chapters** during the year.

Innovation and intellectual property generation have emerged as key pillars of our research ecosystem. During the year, **96 patents were published**, and notably, **39 patents were granted**, marking a strong conversion rate from

research to protected innovation

Strengthening the Culture of Research Excellence

The culture of research publication within the University is further reinforced through structured institutional incentives and formal recognition mechanisms. The University extends financial incentives and formal recognition to faculty. By embedding incentives within its research ecosystem, the institution ensures that excellence in scholarship is not incidental but intentional-driven by policy, supported by leadership, and celebrated as a core institutional value.

We also maintain a strong fellowship ecosystem supporting hundreds of research scholars through Non-NET, NFST, NET-JRF, and Post-Doctoral fellowships.

These achievements reflect our steady emergence as a centre of knowledge creation in the region.

Student Achievements and Professional Distinction

Beyond academic and research accomplishments, our students have excelled in competitive and professional arenas, reinforcing the institution's commitment to holistic development.

- **8 students successfully entered the Civil Services**, securing positions in one of the nation's most prestigious and competitive sectors.
- **44 graduates obtained teaching positions in higher education institutions**, contributing to the academic and intellectual advancement of society.
- Notably, **73% of these successful appointees are women**, reflecting our strong commitment to inclusivity, gender equity, and empowerment.

These achievements are a matter of immense pride and underscore the effectiveness of our academic mentoring, student support systems, and progressive institutional values.

In sports, our teams consistently participated in major regional and national events. The University secured **4th position in the North East Zone**, and our men's football team qualified for the All India Tournament. One football player has been shortlisted for Churchill Brothers Professional Football Club, Goa-a renowned football club in India. Besides, ten teams participated in Zonal and All India

Inter-University Competitions.

Infrastructure Expansion and Modernization

Infrastructure expansion continues to remain a top priority for the institution. Consistent efforts have been undertaken to upgrade classrooms and laboratories in alignment with 21st - century academic and research requirements and *Viksit Bharat @ 2047*.

Under **HEFA Phase I**, seven buildings were successfully completed at a total cost of ₹73.4 crores, and these facilities are now fully operational.

Building upon this progress, **HEFA Phase II** has sanctioned the construction of 20 additional buildings across the three campuses, with an estimated investment of ₹239.47 crores.

The implementation of these projects has been entrusted to **Engineering Projects India Ltd (EPIL)**, a Mini-Ratna Central Public Sector Undertaking (CPSU), which has been appointed as the executing agency.

We express our sincere gratitude to the Honorable Vice President of India, for laying the foundation stones for 7 buildings at Lumami Campus.

Proposals for new departments in Civil Engineering, Mechanical Engineering, Physical Education, and Vocational Studies & Skill Development are under consideration in Ministry of Education, marking important steps toward academic expansion.

Dear Graduates,

Today marks a turning point in your lives. As you leave this campus, remember that a university degree is not merely a certificate-it is a responsibility. The knowledge you have gained must serve society.

The world you enter is complex and rapidly changing. It demands competence, but also character. It values skill, but even more, integrity.

Let your success uplift your families, your communities, and the State of Nagaland.

Once again, I congratulate all graduates and medal recipients. May your journey ahead be guided by wisdom, courage, and purpose.

Jai Bharat.

Jai Hind.



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