

तृतीय दीक्षान्त समारोह  
3<sup>rd</sup> Convocation  
Saturday, 31<sup>st</sup> October, 2015

## Messages from Dignitaries



Indian Institute of Technology Mandi





**SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE  
PRESIDENT OF INDIA**



## **MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF INDIA**

The President of India, Shri Pranab Mukherjee, is happy to know that the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Mandi is organizing its Third Convocation on October 31, 2015.

The President extends his warm greetings and felicitations to faculty, staff and the graduating students and sends his best wishes for success of the Convocation Ceremony.

**SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE  
PRESIDENT OF INDIA**



Scaling the heights

**Indian Institute of Technology Mandi**



**SHRI MOHAMMAD HAMID ANSARI**  
**VICE PRESIDENT OF INDIA**



## **MESSAGE FROM THE VICE PRESIDENT OF INDIA**

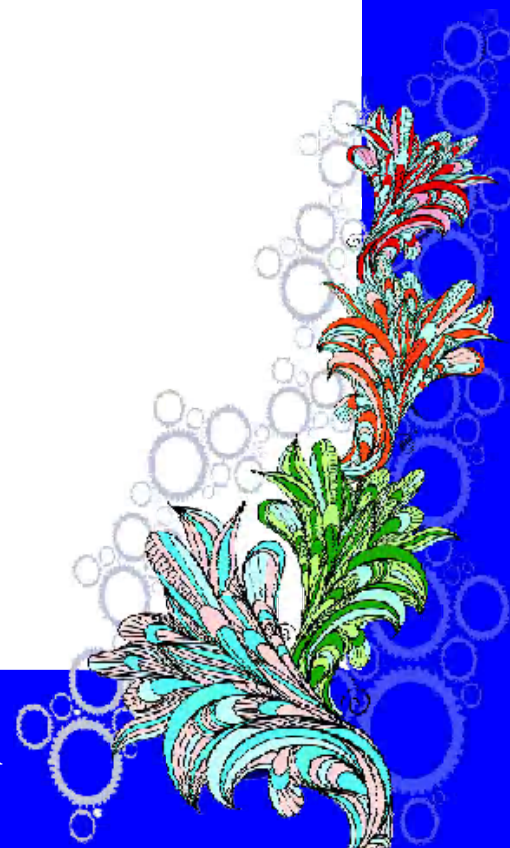
The Hon'ble Vice President of India is happy to learn that Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Mandi is organizing its third Convocation on October 31<sup>st</sup>, 2015.

The Vice President extends his greetings and congratulation to the students, teachers and the staff and wishes the Convocation Ceremony all success.

**SHRI MOHAMMAD HAMID ANSARI**  
**VICE PRESIDENT OF INDIA**



**Indian Institute of Technology Mandi**





**SMT. SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI  
MINISTER OF HUMAN  
RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT**



## **MESSAGE FROM THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT OF INDIA**

It is with great pleasure that I convey my felicitations and best wishes to the entire IIT Mandi family – Students Staff and Faculty Members – on this landmark occasion in the academic calendar. Convocation is a time of celebration as well as stock-taking, and for relatively new Institute like IIT Mandi it is a matter of pride to send forth its third batch of bright students out into the real world.

Just as the IITs have carved distinct identity for themselves in the sphere of training engineering undergraduates, I would like IIT Mandi to also take the lead in training excellent researchers whose research will be cutting edge and ground-breaking world over. Hence, I am happy to note that various post-graduate and research degrees will also be awarded today.

India trains about 15 Lakh engineers every year, of whom 10,000 or so are trained at the various Indian Institute of Technologies, the premier Institutes of our country. To graduate from an IIT is therefore, simultaneously a privilege and a responsibility.



Scaling the heights

**Indian Institute of Technology Mandi**

The graduating batch of IIT Mandi today represents the technological elites of the country. However, graduating students of IIT-Mandi please do remember that this stage is the beginning of your journey towards pursuit of excellence and, not its end.

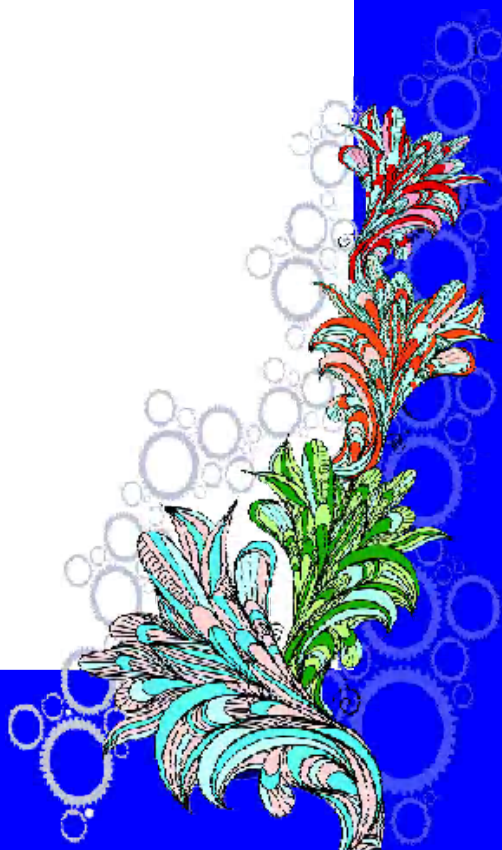
Currently India is undergoing a massive technological, social and economic churning with its commitment to problems concerning food, poverty, and our environment. Each challenge the country faces is also an opportunity for an aware entrepreneur to serve other's needs, and at the same time to create a name for himself/herself. I hope that many of you will rise to the occasion in order to guide the country through its difficult phase of development with the skills and knowledge, which you have acquired over the last few years at the Institute.

As you may know, Indian engineers now play several key leadership roles around the globe, in addition to the technical contributions to the society and world. I wish the new generation of leaders, fashioned by IIT Mandi every success in the future. I am sure the glory the graduating batch will earn will reflect well on their alma mater for years to come.

**SMT. SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI**  
**MINISTER OF HUMAN**  
**RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT**



**Indian Institute of Technology Mandi**







**SHRI ACHARYA DEV VRAT  
GOVERNOR OF HIMACHAL PRADESH,  
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA**



## **MESSAGE FROM THE GOVERNOR OF HIMACHAL PRADESH**

मुझे यह जानकर हार्दिक प्रसन्नता हो रही है कि भारतीय प्रौद्योगिकी संस्थान मण्डी द्वारा 31 अक्टूबर, 2015 को तीसरी दीक्षांत समारोह का आयोजन किया जा रहा है।

भारतीय प्रौद्योगिकी संस्थान पुरे देश में बेहतरीन शिक्षण संस्थानों में जाने जाते हैं। यहाँ के विद्यार्थी न केवल देश बल्कि विदेश में भी अपने ज्ञान व कौशल के माध्यम से बेहतरीन कार्य कर देश का गौरव बढ़ा रहे हैं।

संस्थान गुणवत्तायुक्त प्रौद्योगिकी शिक्षा प्रदान करने के साथ-साथ अनुसंधान में भी महत्वपूर्ण भूमिका निभा रहा है जिसके देश में विज्ञान की तरक्की हो रही है।

मैं सभी विद्यार्थियों के सुनहरे, उज्ज्वल व सफल भविष्य की कामना करता हूँ।

समारोह के सफल आयोजन के लिए शुभकामनाएँ।

**SHRI ACHARYA DEVVRAT  
GOVERNOR, HIMACHAL PRADESH**



Scaling the heights

**Indian Institute of Technology Mandi**



**SHRI VIRBHADRA SINGH  
CHIEF MINISTER OF  
HIMACHAL PRADESH,  
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA**



## **MESSAGE FROM THE CHIEF MINISTER OF HIMACHAL PRADESH**

It is a matter of immense pleasure that Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Mandi is organizing its Third Convocation ceremony on 31 October, 2015.

IIT Mandi is the pioneer institute of the State imparting quality and value based education in various disciplines of science, social science and engineering. There is need for intense research for developing new technologies in various sectors like agriculture, power, environment, information technology in order to ensure development of the nation and state. It is a matter of great contentment that since its inception, the institute has achieved the desired quality of education in Scientific and Technical education which is much required to providing solutions to the existing problems and accelerate the pace of development.

I extend my good wishes and congratulation on the occasion.

**SHRI VIRBHADRA SINGH  
CHIEF MINISTER, HIMACHAL PRADESH**



**Indian Institute of Technology Mandi**







**SHRI VINAY SHEEL OBEROI  
THE MHRD SECRETARY**



## **MESSAGE FROM THE MHRD SECRETARY**

I congratulate the graduating students, staff and faculty members of IIT Mandi on the occasion of the Institute's Third Convocation on 31<sup>st</sup> October, 2015. For the students in particular, this is a landmark day, on that honours their achievements and they can look forward to the potential and excitement of their lives.

Six years on from the tentative beginnings, IIT Mandi has overcome the challenges that confront any new institutions. Under the leadership of its Director, Prof. Timothy A. Gonsalves, and with the effort its faculty, it has turned its location and relative remoteness to advantage. It is heartening to note that IIT Mandi has excelled in a short period of time in a number of fields of engineering, basic sciences, humanities and social sciences.

It has been successfully working towards producing highly skilled engineers and scholars. With an all-round and inter-disciplinary nurturing of its students IIT Mandi has already begun to contribute to shaping a better India and a better world.



Scaling the heights

**Indian Institute of Technology Mandi**

IIT Mandi has addressed high priority problems of the region such as landslides, avalanches, highway construction, tourism, renewable power and development of sustainable technology.

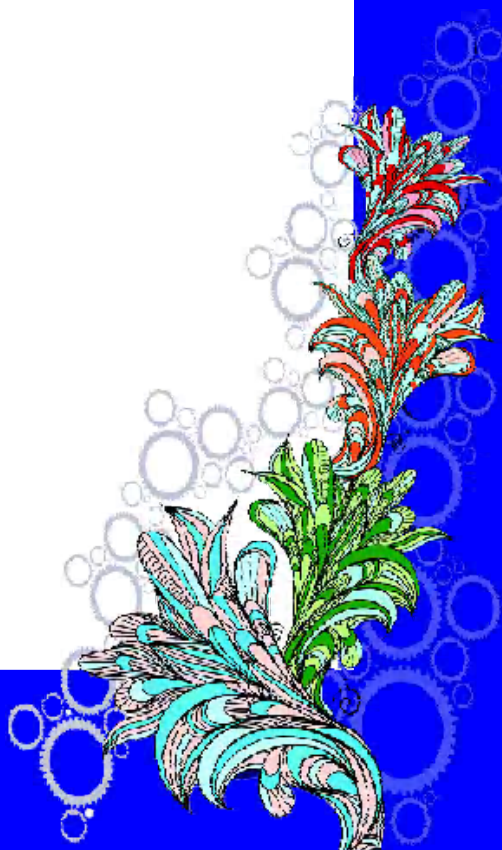
Earlier this year, IIT Mandi successfully brought the B. Tech. students to its permanent campus in the scenic Kamand valley providing full-fledged campus life to the students. The construction of the Institute's North campus is also progressing at a rapid space.

My best wishes to the Chairman, Shri M Natarajan, Director, Prof Timothy A. Gonsalves, faculty, staff and all the graduating students.

**SHRI VINAY SHEEL OBEROI**  
**SECRETARY, MHRD**



**Indian Institute of Technology Mandi**



**N. SATHYAMURTHY  
DIRECTOR, INDIAN INSTITUTE OF  
SCIENCE EDUCATION AND  
RESEARCH, MOHALI**



## **MESSAGE FROM THE CHIEF GUEST**

Mr. Natarajan, Chairman, Board of Governors; Prof. Gonsalves, Director, IIT Mandi; distinguished guests, dear graduates and friends:

It is a privilege for me to stand in front of you and say a few words. First of all, I want to congratulate all the graduates of the day and their parents and families. I know it is a proud moment for each one of you. The Convocation in which I received my first degree was a controversial one. My father managed to use his official ID and got-in to witness it. Later, I was delighted to see my daughter receive her M.Sc. degree from IIT Kanpur. I can imagine how excited each one of you and your parents must be at this moment.

Coming from IISER Mohali, I know what IIT Mandi has gone through in setting up a temporary campus and moving into the permanent campus, and the job is still not done. Your job was much more difficult than ours. You are still one of the pioneer batches. You put your trust in the Director and his team when you joined IIT Mandi, and today you stand vindicated.

I still remember the day I took charge as the Director of IISER Mohali on June 18, 2007. There was nothing. After two days, I got a dark room in the basement of a library in the MGSIPAP Complex, Chandigarh. I used to joke that IISER Mohali was delivered in a dark room. Today, we have a sprawling campus with hostels, residences, lecture hall complex, teaching labs, research labs, library, computer centre and all that. Four batches of students have graduated. Our students have gone places. My faculty colleagues have also started publishing in top journals.

The reason I talked about IISER Mohali at IIT Mandi is to tell you how I am in a position to understand and appreciate what you and your teachers and the Director and the rest of the team at IIT Mandi have gone through in the last few years to make sure that you get a good training at IIT Mandi. I can imagine how many sleepless nights Prof. Gonsalves and his team must have gone through to make sure that you sleep well, eat well, and study well. It is like parenting.

At the end of the day, what matters is that you are all graduates: Graduates worthy of the



**Indian Institute of Technology Mandi**

degree that you have received from IIT Mandi. It is a culmination of your efforts and that of your parents and your teachers. The journey is NOT over. The journey actually begins now, after you toss your cap off after the function is over. The protected life you enjoyed at home or at IIT Mandi is over. It is time for you to face the world, the real world with all its attractions and realities.

What you learned in your classes was only a training to learn. You are yet to acquire real knowledge. That will come by experimenting with your life. Experimenting with what you have learned. You have to earn a livelihood. Since you are all bright students, you will look for challenges. That is where you will discover yourselves. Some of you will go on to higher studies, some of you will take up a job and some of you will try to figure out what you want to do with your life.

I spent nearly three decades at IIT Kanpur. I have some idea of how the mind of an IITian works. Most of the IITians think too much of themselves. They don't think too much about the teachers or anybody around. It is only years later that you will look back and realise what a great time you had when you were a student at IIT Mandi. All the difficulties you have faced in the last few years will get a romantic aura around them. You will realise what a sacrifice your teachers made for you just like your parents. Your respect for them will grow with years.

Why did the government invest so much in you? Why did Prof. Gonsalves and his team put in so much effort to set up IIT Mandi and to see that you graduate with flying colors? They didn't do it for the salary that they received. They did it for a greater cause. It is part of nation-building. Creating IIT Mandi out of nothing is a magic that they have done. Actually, you were a part of it. But for you, there is no IIT Mandi. It is like raising children. You go through hell raising children only to realise that the birds will fly out of the nest. But you still do it. Because that is the way it works. I know the difficulties my parents faced in raising us. When you leave the portals of IIT Mandi, the next batch will get ready to graduate and the show goes on!

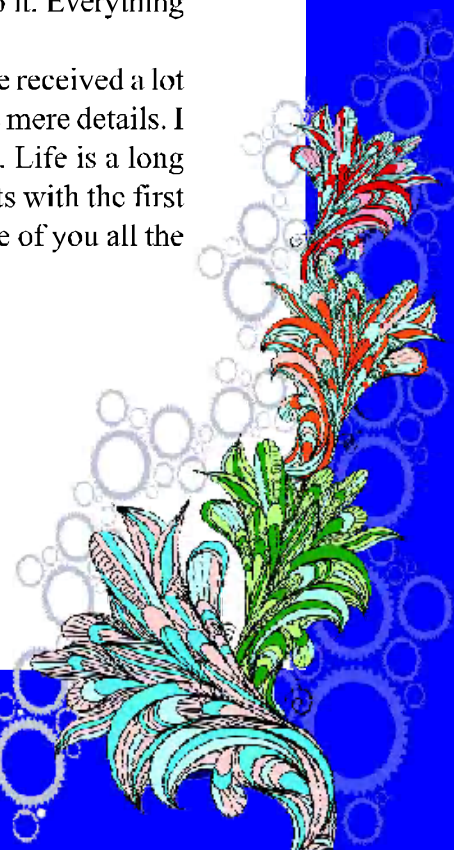
What is expected of you, the graduates of the day? To be good citizens of the country! The country has invested heavily in you. You must give it a good return on its investment. But how? By being good in whatever you are good at. Some of you will become engineers, some will become managers and some will become teachers and some will become researchers. Some will hopefully become entrepreneurs too. It doesn't matter what you do. You must become the best. If you decide to become a painter, become a famous painter. Put your body, mind and soul into it. Everything else will follow!

I have no special ability to give you any advice. This much I know. I have received a lot from my country and I have tried to give back as much as I could. The rest of it is mere details. I expect the same from you. It is a difficult path ahead. But you must traverse it. Life is a long journey and it is worth undertaking. As they say, the journey of 1000 miles starts with the first step. You are about to take your first step, the baby step. I want to wish each one of you all the best in your journey, wherever you go, whatever you do.

Jai Hind!



**Indian Institute of Technology Mandi**









**Indian Institute of Technology Mandi**

