

Leader's Speech

The GTU Post-graduate Research Centres



On April 18, 2013, Dr APJ Abdul Kalam, the former President of India, said “Good teaching emanates from research.” He commended the mission of providing value-based quality education to students of all sections of society and to make higher education an effective Instrument for socio-economic transformation of the nation.

The GTU Post-graduate Research Centres are designed to work as examples of good and relevant research. The Centres are to work as catalysts for infusing the spirit of innovation and research in the Colleges through multi-College joint research projects and through involving post-graduate students actively in research, development and consultancy projects. The Centres are to establish active linkages with the industry and research institutions in India and abroad.

The Centres should publish excellent research. They should also be able to provide informed commentaries on all issues of public policy, within the domain of each Centre or a group of Centres. Thus the Research Centres should be able to raise the level of debate in the public domain. The Centres should become institutional public intellectuals or independent think-tanks to which scholars of the whole of the world should be invited and where they would like to come to expound their ide-as to a receptive, knowledgeable but critical audience.

There are University Centres to which the political leaders from the whole of the world are invited and the invitees feel honoured to speak from their podiums. There are Universities, which run short-term courses for young leaders of the world and there are long queues of aspirants for these courses. There are Universities to which scholars would love to be invited as soon as they have come out with a significant new idea in the form of a book or a paper. There are Universities, which are invited to help build a quality

higher education system for a province of 85 million people and the University has no more than 1,000 faculty members. (GTU has 17,000 faculty members in its Colleges.) GTU wants to have Centres, which are respected by professors and scholars from all over the world. GTU wants to have beautifully architected halls and libraries, which are made sacred by the foot-falls of great scholars.

GTU's dream is to have in India a University, the kind of which we have not had for the last 816 years. GTU aims at becoming a University in which its students and professors can take pride and which is perceived as a treasure for the whole of the world.

The Post-graduate Centres will play an important role in realizing the dream.

Let all of us, at the University and at the Colleges, affiliated with GTU, join the missionary team to make GTU a great University. We can do it if only we decide to break out of the cocoon of mediocrity, in which we have imprisoned ourselves. We must do it – for our country and for our world.

Dr. Akshai Aggarwal

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