

INDEPENDENCE DAY ADDRESS

BY

DIRECTOR, NIPER – SAS Nagar

[15-08-2019]

Dear students, faculty members, scientific staff, administrative staff and all members of the NIPER fraternity,

As you all know, India is celebrating its **73rd** Independence day. NIPER, SAS Nagar is proudly and happily joining the rest of the country in these celebrations. I take this opportunity to greet every one of you and all the Alumni of this great institution living in this great country and all corners of the world a **HAPPY 73rd INDEPENDENCE DAY**.

It is more than seven decades since, India became independent from the British rule. We all became citizens of an independent country, we received our identity as we deserve. Since the historical day on 15th August 1947, we have evolved as nation in which science and technology is respected. We adopted the highest values in science and technology, progressed to be recognized as a country with many scientific merits. In this world which is a knowledge based world, we are working in a profession which supplies scientifically talented work force to the knowledge based pharmaceutical industry.

Government of India is taking many progressive decisions – be it in reorganisation of states or be it in health sector. Make in India, Ayushman Bharat Mission, Digital India, Swachh Bharat etc. In 2018, under Ayushman Bharat Mission, about a million e-cards have been offered to required citizens. Government of India is giving utmost importance to the health of every citizen of India. It started world's largest government funded health care programme during the past one year. We are working in this health service sector. Our institute is directly contributing to the health sector of India. We are involved in drug design, drug discovery and new drug development, which are indirectly part of the grand plans unveiled by Government of India during the budget 2019. This new policy shall be giving many opportunities to the pharmacy

professionals in the country. With an increase in the health insurance cover to the citizens of India, the requirements of improved standards in pharmaceutical field also shall be emerging. This necessitates that NIPER should extend its quality education and research components to quality in pharmaceutical management, stability of products, distribution of drugs, etc. NIPER should establish very high standards in technology transfers, dosage forms, bioavailability tests, etc. It will be our endeavour to bring out significant change in our pharmaceutical field keeping pace with the Government efforts in making India a very healthy nation, on par with all the rich nations.

The challenges in our field are in terms of translational aspects of pharma profession. We do have facilities to achieve this, but efforts need to be improved in this direction. We have excellent team of Computer aided drug designers. We have world's best organic chemistry community (both in synthesis and in natural product extraction). Our in vitro and in vivo research facilities are on par with the best in the world. The drug development team is establishing new heights every year. NIPER scientific teams are paying attention to toxicity, metabolism, safety, etc. aspects of drugs/leads at very high standards. All these efforts by the student community in the guidance of the highly talented teachers has resulted in securing number 1 position in India, in terms of Pharmaceutical Education **Career 360 ranking** number #1 for the year 2019. It is time for us to integrate the efforts all the above teams to achieve viable products.

Very few persons in India have witnessed Independence struggle. But all of us have seen the efforts to rebuild India. Today India is being considered as a part of developed countries. **India is now referred as developed country.** We already part of G9 and BRICS countries (**Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa**) and we are likely to get permanent membership of G4, an organization composed of Brazil, Germany, Japan, and **India**.

Entire world is looking towards India to realize the power of the youth in India. Especially India is being considered as Pharmacy of the world, since we are supplying drugs to every part of the world at affordable price. Our pharmaceuticals experts were able to capture the generic drug market. Our chemistry experts are being able to identify new and cheaper paths for the

generation of almost all known drugs. Our biological and pharmacological experts also contributed towards significant growth of the field of pharmaceutical sciences. We are learning the techniques from information technology, management technology and leading towards the establishing standards in pharmacy practice and clinical research. We are integrating the fundamentals of traditional medicine and reaching towards the world while adopting the best practices of regulations.

Not everything is rosy, several challenges still remain. In the health sector, spurious drugs is an issue, which crops up every now and then. NIPER has responsibility in this direction. Drug menace in Punjab and malnutrition issues in the country also important challenges, which the pharmaceutical experts should pay attention to.

On this Independence Day, we take a conscious decision to work towards improving the standards of NIPER to make it 'on par with the best institutions in the world'. We have taken all the measures of encouraging employees of the Institute for instance implemented the recommendations of 7th Pay Commission.

With your immense support, we have within the past one year, NIPER achieved the following.

Institutional:

1. NIPER achieved NIRF rank 3rd and 1st Rank among Govt. Institutes by Career 360 – Ranking for Pharmacy colleges 2019.
2. NIPER adopted best practices in green chemistry and green campus and awarded Shining Glory Award – 2019 by Green Maple Foundation, which foundation is aimed for recognizing and honoring the individuals and organizations/associations for their outstanding contribution in the field of economic and social development of India and conducting awareness programs on issues related to the protection of environmental, plantation and greenbelt development, safety, child education , women empowerment and education and other social activities.

3. The academic activities of the Institute are making an impact as reflected from the high H-Index of the institute i.e. 110
4. National Technology Day celebrated at NIPER S.A.S. Nagar (May 11, 2019)
5. NIPER Innovation Awards to provide an incentive for technology innovators to pursue a promising idea, and establish and validate the proof of concept (POC), Two awards worth of approx. Rs 6 lakh amount were awarded.
6. NIPER Signed 5 MoUs including 2 International Academic Collaborations.

International:

1. Two INDO-German projects have been granted by DBT.
2. International Training Programmes -3 ITEC events were organized since last Independence Day.
3. Three German teams (including faculty and students) are scheduled to visit NIPER in near future.
4. MOU for research collaboration with Andijan State Medical University, Uzbekistan Signed and with Tashkent Institute of Pharmacy, agreement is in progress.
5. Scheme for Promotion of Academic and Research Promotion (SPARC) along with Japanese University was Granted

Student Related Achievements:

1. Instituted "Neha Shoree AIDCOC-NIPER Medal" to the best Achiever amongst students and the same will be given this year
2. Three students visited Russia recently, one of the won cash award.
3. One student visited Germany for 50 days as part of DAAD-DST project.
4. NIPER Masters student bags placement as Associate Data Analyst in Decision Resource Group, a multinational company highlighting the

ability of NIPER students to make their mark in the field other than purely pharmaceutical field.

5. One of the M.S. (Pharm.) student has bagged PhD position funded by Science Foundation Ireland (SFI) at University of Limerick (UL), Limerick, Ireland.
6. NIPER Masters students have been offered PhD position with scholarship at Washington State University (WSU), Purdue University and Kent State University, USA
7. One of the PhD student has bagged post-doctoral position at University of Washington (UW), Seattle, Washington, USA
8. Alumni Association Office was inaugurated on June 20, 2019.
9. Fellowships of the students have been enhanced at par with CSIR/DST etc.
10. Placement activities were conducted and I am happy to announce over 75 % (approx. 90%) of our students have been placed in reputed firms.
11. International Exchange of Faculty and students are in progress
 - INDO-Japan
 - INDO-German
 - INDO-Uzbekistan
 - INDO-Egypt
12. Efforts are in progress on two issues: DoP supported our request in allowing the continuation of its projects on TB and KA.
13. Dual degree programs are being pursued with Japanese and Uzbekistan institutions.
14. Inter-NIPER Scientific, Sports and Cultural Meet-2019 @NIPER SAS Nagar (21-25 February, 2019)
15. Director honored the students & staff with "Certificate of appreciation" for participating in Marathon "Race against Drugs" (March 23, 2019).
16. Workshop on gender sensitization, a lecture on legal aspects of "Prevention, Prohibition and Redressal of Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace Act 2013" delivered by Dr. Upneet Lalli, Deputy Director, Institute of Correctional Administration, Chandigarh. (April 11, 2019)

Employee Welfare:

1. **Grievance redressal:** Grievance redressal process is an ongoing process. It will be a permanent part of good governance. I have made happiness of the employees my target and will not rest till NIPER becomes grievance free. Together we shall attain freedom from negativity and unhappiness. The regularization process is also completed.
2. **Transparency-promotes trust:** Process of uploading minutes of meetings of statutory committees including BoG and other documents, for which RTI had to be filed, will be freely available. I have taken special steps to ensure transparency.
3. **Curbing administration related conflicts:** This has been our focus and many efforts proved successful. All others will be addressed soon.
4. **Implementation of 7th Pay Commission Recommendations** for all the employees of the Institute from July, 2019
5. **Instituted Awards** namely for LATE SRI LALA DEWAN CHAND AND SMT SUMITRA DEVI AWARDS for the selection of the awardees from the various categories e.g. Students, Technical Staff and outsourced staff and process of selection is in progress.
6. **New team at the cafeteria:** A new team has been chosen to look into the matters of Cafeteria, they have identified a new contractor. Hope you all had an opportunity to visit this place – please give your feedback.
7. World Happiness Day (March 20, 2019)
8. Health Camps were organized for NIPER Employees on (May 15, 2019 and June 20, 2019)
9. Health Lectures were organized for outsourced staff where resource persons were invited from ESI for interactive sessions with employees.
10. Summer Camp @NIPER Crèche

Environment:

1. Three plantation drives.
2. World Environment Day (June 5th, 2019)
3. A green window is functional under which quality germplasm of medicinal plants is freely available to all at very nominal cost.
4. Water Harvesting and solid waste management initiatives have started
5. Power saving is a cause of concern for me. We are not only going 'solar' but also focussing on effective utilization of existing resources.
6. Swatch Bharat Abhiyan is in progress at NIPER.
7. Swatcha Pakwada will be held in NIPER (Sept. 2019)

Social:

1. Workshops on Gender sensitization, a lecture on legal aspects of "Prevention, Prohibition and Redressal of Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace and
2. Interactive session on "psycho-social aspects on prevention and dealing with sexual harassment"

New Initiatives in Research and Education for national progress

1. NIPER TDC Plant (Formulation) was made functional for student training Activity and six trainings were successfully completed during this period.
2. NIPER Green Window for medicinal Plants.
3. NIPER S.A.S. Nagar is working in consonance with the vision of our honorable Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi, towards Digital India. DBT (Direct Beneficiary Transfer) scheme was implemented for direct

transfer of student fellowships to their bank accounts. Almost 100% payments to suppliers/parties, etc are being made digitally.

4. NIPER-NRDC Innovation Centre was granted by NRDC, Trainings for Punjab University students was carried out in IPR department.
5. Industrial collaboration is in process with top MNCs such as P&G, Novartis, Biocon, Zoetis and Lupin etc.
6. In collaboration with NIN, Hyderabad, new nutraceutical formulations are being developed, which are for nutritional deficiencies as well as for certain therapeutic purposes.

The most important and significant part of this Independence Day is that with inputs from all- the Ministry, the Board of Governors, our elected representatives i.e. Members of Parliament, the faculty, staff and students- a detailed and comprehensive '5 YEAR MANIFESTO' has been prepared. It is a roadmap on how we have to move ahead, to take the nation ahead.

15th August every year will not be a time of celebration of historical independence alone. It will be the day when we publicly share our achievements and contribution to the Nation to free it from poverty, disease, malnutrition and other ills and issue a 'report card' on what we planned and what we achieved.

Let us join hands to make NIPER not only an institution of national pride but an institute of global recognition and service to humanity.

Jai Hind!