The ICFAI University, Mizoram

The 4th Convocation 2015 5th November, 2015

WELCOME ADDRESS

BY

VICE CHANCELLOR PROF JP RAMAPPA His Excellency Governors of Mizoram Distinguished Guests Faculty & Staff of IU, Mizoram Graduating Students Parents Ladies & Gentlemen

It gives me great pleasure to welcome all of you today for the 4th Convocation of ICFAI University, Mizoram.

We are fortunate to have with us the First Citizen of the State, His Excellency the Governor of Mizoram as our Chief Guest.

Sir, we are honoured with your presence today.

The sponsor of ICFAI University Mizoram is ICFAI Society, a not for profit society started by our visionary Founder Shri NJ Yasaswy who tragically passed away on 8th October, 2011, at a young age. His vision of setting up world class universities in the North East has been the driving force for setting up the ICFAI University in Mizoram.

Today as we complete one more milestone at our young University we need to remember the Founder and also the Project team which has set up the excellent facilities, which we are using today, and we are thankful to them.

We are also thankful to the Government of Mizoram for enacting the State Legislation setting up the ICFAI University in 2006 and its continued support. Our University is UGC recognised and empowered to offer degrees under Sec 22 of the UGC act (1956).

ICFAI is one of the largest Private University group in India and has 11 Universities in its fold. The Universities are in Hyderabad, Dehradun, Raipur, Jaipur, Ranchi, Baddi, Tripura, Nagaland, Meghalaya, Sikkim and Mizoram.

We are a young University, established only in 2006, but we have been growing from strength to strength with an ever increasing student and faculty base. We have about 500 students enrolled as on date.

We are today offering 16 programs at Bachelor and Masters Level in areas like Management, Information Technology and Humanities. We are proposing to add 8 more courses this year to expand the scope of activities and give the students more options to pursue their career goals.

All our courses are career oriented programmes, which will help the students to get gainful employment on graduating.

We offer placement assistance to all our students through a special team of trained and experienced placement faculty and staff, to help the students to get good jobs and start a career as soon as they graduate. This is one of our unique services. We have been able to maintain our record of 100% placements for our MBA graduates, since the beginning.

Today 59 students are graduating in the 3 Under Graduate courses BBA, BCA and BHTM and in the Post Graduate course MBA. As the Humanities courses were started only last year, these students will form the graduating class in the years to come.

Today on a 17 acre campus, we have 43000 sqft of built up area that consist of class room, computer lab, Language lab, Library with over 13000 books and common facilities like the Auditorium where we are holding our Convocation today, and Recreation area etc. We are proposing to shortly add more built up space to accommodate the growing student population and the increasing courses we are offering. The ICFAI Society has already invested over Rs.32 crores in the University and continues to support its operation and growth.

We have been sending our senior students on study tours within and outside the State to broaden their outlook and sensitize them to developments and career opportunities outside. If the students want to grow in their career they should not be shy from going outside Mizoram for better career openings and growth. Sports and Cultural activities are equally important for the overall development of our students and we encourage our students to participate in such activities. Currently the students actively take part in the Dance Club, Photography Club, Rotoract Club, ICFAI University Volleyball team, ICFAI University Football team and ICFAI University Cricket team. These teams have been participating in various competitions and events like Anthodium Festival in Mizoram.

The University has been annually sponsoring the ICFAI-LPS Quiz for Schools in Mizoram and this is a popular event with attractive prizes for the Winners and Runner up teams.

Today is a joyous occasion for all the students', Faculty and staff of ICFAI University. The Faculty and staff are extremely happy to see the transformation of the students from shy entrants to the University to confident young women and men, who are ready to start a new life and career in their chosen field. It is a happy day for the parents who can see a fulfilment of their dreams of seeing their son/daughters graduate and stand on their feet and be a support to their family.

I congratulate the students on successfully completion of the tough courses and demanding study schedule. I particularly congratulate the toppers of the batches who are going to shortly get their gold and silver medals at the hands of the Chief Guest His Excellency the Governor of Mizoram.

The students graduating today are the future Ambassador of the University. Please uphold the good name of the University by achieving success in all that you do and earning a good name by your conduct.

Please remember the Faculty who have guided you to successfully complete the course. Please remember your parents who have supported you through your study here. They have made sacrifices to support you and it is your turn to support them now onwards.

Learning does not end here. This is only the beginning and as you progress in life there will be many obstacles to cross and goals to achieve. I hope we have prepared you well to face the world with courage.

I wish you all success in your future career and growth. God bless all of you.

<u>Profile</u>

Prof JP Ramappa is the son of a World War II Veteran Air Force Officer.

He is a B Tech from Indian Institute of Technology, Madras (1969) and MBA from Indian Institute of Management, Ahmedabad (1973), two of India's best educational institution.

After a brilliant academic record he joined the Private Corporate Sector and served for over 34 years at senior positions in various organisations.

He joined ICFAI in 2003 and was made Director ICFAI School of Information Technology. He is also on various Boards of ICFAI Universities which he has helped in establishing and developing. He has been Vice Chancellor of ICFAI University, Mizoram since 1st December, 2011.

He is a successful and active sportsman, athletic in school, college and university and has played almost every game like Hockey, Football, Cricket, Tennis, Badminton etc. Even today he continues to play competitive Badminton in the Veteran category and represents Andhra Pradesh, now. Earlier he had represented Karnataka and Maharashtra. He has been playing and winning medals at the World Master Games held every 4 years at places like USA, Canada, Australia, Italy etc.

He has widely travelled to more than a dozen countries like USA, Canada, Denmark, UK, Italy, Germany, France, Europe, Dubai, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Japan, New Zealand etc on work and sports.