



Dhirubhai Ambani University celebrates its 19th Convocation.

- Hosts Dr. S. Somanath, a distinguished scientist and former chairman of ISRO, as chief guest.
- DAU President, Tina Ambani and other Board members also grace the occasion.
- A total of 653 students graduate across UG, PG, and PhD programs.
- University introduces Faculty Appreciation Awards for research accomplishments.

January 18, 2025: The Dhirubhai Ambani University (DAU) formerly known as Dhirubhai Ambani Institute of Information and Communication Technology celebrated its 19th Convocation at its campus at Gandhinagar today. A total of 653 students across UG, PG and PhD programs graduated successfully with some of them being awarded President's gold medals for their meritorious performances. This year, DAU also gave away awards to faculty for their research accomplishments and to student's clubs and individuals for research and co-curricular excellence.

Dr S. Somantah, distinguished scientist and former Secretary, Department of Space and Chairman, Space Commission and ISRO was the Chief Guest for the evening and delivered the Convocation address. Tina Anil Ambani, President, DAU, and other members of the Board of Governors (BoG) also graced this all-important occasion. A large audience comprising distinguished guests from academia and industry, families of the graduating students and the DAU staff members also attended the Convocation.

The Convocation commenced with the ceremonial procession led by the Professor Tathagata Bandyopadhyay, Director General, DAU and the Chief Guest along with the President and members of the BoG along with the Deans at DAU- Professor Bhaskar Chaudhury, Dean (Academic Programs), Professor Maniklal Das, Dean (Faculty), Professor Yash Vasavada, Dean (Research), Professor Kalyan Sasidhar, Dean (Students) and Shri Siddharth Swaminarayan, Executive Registrar along with the faculty members. The grand Open-Air Theatre at the campus provided the perfect backdrop for the most awaited annual event at the University. The 19th Convocation commenced formally with the President declaring the Convocation Open.

Professor Tathagata Bandyopadhyay, Director General, DAU, shared the annual report of the academic and research progress, student, and alumni accomplishments as well as other

developments. Addressing the gathering he said, "DA-IICT has become DAU (Dhirubhai Ambani University) by an official gazette notification of Government of Gujarat in May 2024. The idea of DAU is to transform DA-IICT into a multidisciplinary education and research university. The focus of DAU will be on advancing research and establishing schools offering new-age programs across disciplines including ICT, Law, Management, Design, Medical Science, among others. The law school is already founded, and it is working on offering new programs from the 2025 academic session."

Sharing his thoughts on the fast-paced changes in technology, he further added, " We all know that AI is playing havoc with our life and its presence is ubiquitous. It is touching upon every profession including ours that of academics. This is a high time for us to engage in a discourse on how AI can be used in making teaching pedagogy and research more effective. We plan to start a new centre at DAU for debating and discussing these issues."

Finally, wishing the graduating students he said, " As you move ahead in your careers, remember to learn all the time, apply it in life and deliver the best. Prove yourself worthy of the DAU family."

Tina Anil Ambani, President DAU, thanked the DAU family for their contribution to the success of DA-IICT over the years as it transitioned into the Dhirubhai Ambani University (DAU). Expressing her views on the future journey of DAU, she said, " At DAU, we believe education is liberation of the mind, achieved through the fusion of diverse knowledge. Exposure to such knowledge not only inspires individuals to explore new frontiers but also fosters empathy and equanimity, enabling our students to unlock their true potential and contribute to a brighter, more inclusive future for our nation. I believe that with our collective efforts, commitment and zeal, DAU will take on a pivotal role in the higher education space in India and globally, preparing the leaders of tomorrow for the challenges and opportunities that lie ahead. Let us build on our successes and carry forward our past legacy of excellence as we craft a dynamic future. Onwards and upwards!"

The Chief Guest, Dr S. Somanath, gave away the President's gold medal to the toppers of each program and congratulated them. Addressing the graduating students, Dr S Somantah, distinguished scientist former Secretary, Department of Space and Chairman, Space Commission and ISRO said, "

I am particularly fortunate to work at ISRO focussed on the use of space technology to find solutions to the problems of people and society. Not far from now, Bharat should become a technology powered nation, where homegrown innovations will create new opportunities in industries, product development, business and economic progress. The initiatives of our government to have the

industry-academia-government support system for research and innovation through creation of ANRF and other models will definitely bring results.

In the coming years, much growth is forecast in the field of science, engineering and other allied field that will make significant changes in your profession as well. Technology disruptions will change everything we see today. One of the quality you need to develop is to be a student always.

I congratulate all of you once again and wish every one of you an exciting, challenging and a rewarding journey ahead in your life and career and may you fulfil all your dreams. Strive to bring benefits of your learning for the betterment of the society and nation. Make your parents and teachers proud of you". The venue reverberated with loud applause and cheers with fellow students cheering the students as they went on stage to receive their graduation certificates. 10 students were awarded the gold medals- 5 from UG, 5 from PG programs.

Winners of the President's Gold Medals

B Tech (ICT)

BOPPARAM GANGARAJU
HARSH CHIRAG PATEL
PORIYA NEEL DHARMESHBHAI

B Tech (Honours) ICT with Minor CS

THAKRAR PARTH NITINBHAI

B Tech (MnC)

SUTHAR NISARG GHANSHYAMBHAI

M Tech (ICT)

BAGWE SARVESH

M Sc (IT)

PRADHUMAN RAMAWAT

M Sc (DS)

SHREYA ARORA

M Sc (AA)

ABHI GUPTA

M Des (CD)

ADITYA CHATURVEDI

In a pre- convocation ceremony, the DAU gave away awards to the faculty members as well as students appreciating their contribution to research. For the first time, DAU gave away awards to 24 of its faculty members for outstanding research output. Along with them around 15 students were recognized for their research participation. In another first, the University also awarded student clubs and individuals for their co-curricular accomplishments.

The academic year was punctuated with several faculty and students' successes. They won awards, participated in events and competitions, rural and industry internships. They also had the opportunity to help their faculty members in several important consulting and research projects. Students from the PG and UG programs were also hired for diverse roles by several top-notch

companies. Our doctoral students have been chosen by renowned academic and research Institutions . DAU alumni continued to make the University proud with their accomplishments.

The Convocation concluded with the freshly minted graduates throwing their ceremonial 'Angvastrams' high up in the air in excitement, reflecting their happiness and sense of achievement on completing an important phase of their student life. As the convocation processions headed back, the students rushed to meet the eagerly waiting family members and friends, hugging them ,taking selfies and photographs capturing moments and creating memories for a lifetime.

With the graduation of this batch of students, the DAU alumni network becomes a 8000 plus strong community spread across the world.