



University of Allahabad

Message from the Vice Chancellor

Greetings to all faculty & students,

I wish you all a very happy and prosperous 2024.

As you usher into a new year, you have been witnessing to a lot of changes taking place on the campus. AU has made rapid progress in terms of cleanliness and beautification. We have beautiful buildings in a beautiful setting creating an ambiance where students can pursue studies peacefully. This being the most impressionable period in lives of the students, I firmly believe that such surroundings are very important in the process whereby students acquire the knowledge and intellectual discipline which a University must provide. Beauty has a profound influence on the growing minds, it is an unconscious influence but it is a very real one. Our University is built according to that wisdom. It is equally essential that we all have a clear idea of the kind of life and atmosphere which we want our students to live in and to foster into them a culture of having a beautiful life so that when they leave the campus, they remember the University family with pride.

Universities are the cultural link between Bharat and the outside world. Our responsibility to equip our students with the soft and hard skills is immense. I consider soft skills as being equally important to academic qualifications. Equipped with practical and theoretical knowledge under their belt they must transform into responsible citizens of tomorrow's India. They should be fostered into creative thinking, be open to new ideas, and have an ideology of one world and one people. Decision making and problem solving should be entrenched only through good education.

We have been witness to wars and the ravages of war. Unbridled ambition among human beings leads to colossal losses to the entire world. The world must take a step back and under guidance of ancient wisdoms, reassess the path it is taking. A knowledge of Ved and Upanishad teaches us many life lessons. Veds have existed before the advent of any religion on the planet. The teachings in these scriptures are fundamental to a purposeful and fulfilled life of all human beings.

The advent of 320 faculty members in 28 departments has brought about significant change on the student footfall in the campus. Left over vacancies have been re-advertised. After the screening is complete interviews shall again begin.

The work of restoration of laboratories, hostels and all departments are on the go. It is my earnest desire that the departments should find alumni to hold hands. Few departments have benefitted from the magnanimity of the alumni. A page has also been constructed on the University website wherein, money can be directly transferred to our bank account and the Vice Chancellor may be informed through email as to what use the money has to be made.

This year for the very first time the University got a QS ranking, the pride of all the faculty members gleams in their eyes when they talk about the University. It is heartening to



see so many people just wanting to visit the Vizianagaram campus of the University and marvel on the mystic gothic architecture surrounded with beautiful gardens on all sides, a monument whose beauty remained veiled for many years. We have been on a fulfilling journey of recreating and rebuilding all that was lost for the past few years.

We have opened an incubation centre for startups, language labs and a new auditorium where in deliberations are made for a future prosperous country.

Recently we had a Sports Meet under the Fit India movement. The enthusiasm of the students and faculty was worth admiration where events like the cycle race, the tug of war became the high lights of the day. The rush of adrenaline amongst all was visible for many days. Among the heartening developments, the hockey turf is being used for night matches and students keenly gather for lawn tennis and cricket to be coached by highly qualified coaches.

With more and more women joining the work force, it was necessary to establish day care facilities for their children. The Early Childhood Education Centre is now abuzz with adequate staff and children are well taken care off.

My 3-year tenure weaves a story, reinforcing my belief that we are the makers and we are the destroyers. Let us logically choose to save our institutions and all other resources to benefit our young. Let's come together build a beautiful tomorrow.

The Coffee Table Book which was unveiled on the 1st of December 2023 is a labour of love for the institution. We took two years to compile and publish it. Many a times it felt impossible to carry on the work but just the will to go on ... brought us to the dawn of a beautiful book which chronicles the academic, political and social contributions of the University in the past 137 years and also the projected direction for the future.

I hope this year brings us closer to building the institution of our dreams. As the nation begins planning for a Vikasit Bharat in 2027, we at the University of Allahabad shift gears to contribute to the journey.

I extend sincere wishes for a bright year filled with achievements for all.

Prof. Sangita Srivastava
Vice Chancellor
University of Allahabad