



## 15TH CONVOCATION CEREMONY OF TERI SCHOOL OF ADVANCED STUDIES

TERI School of Advanced Studies (TERI SAS), New Delhi, a deemed to be University, held its 15th Convocation on 23 February 2023, at Stein Auditorium, India Habitat Centre, Lodhi Road, New Delhi.

**Dr V K Saraswat, Member, NITI Aayog, Government of India**, was the chief guest. During his illustrious career, Dr Saraswat has been credited with (i) the indigenous development of missiles, namely PRITHVI, DHANUSH, PRAHAAR, and AGNI-5, (ii) the development of two-tiered Ballistic Missiles Defence (BMD) systems, and (iii) initial operational clearance of light combat aircraft TEJAS and Nuclear Submarine INS Arihant.

During the convocation ceremony, **16 scholars received their doctoral degrees and a total of 205 graduates received their master's degrees** in niche and diverse programmes offered by the institute.

As an institution of higher learning and cutting-edge research, TERI SAS has always been ahead of its time in terms of finding sustainable solutions to world challenges. Over the years, the institute tailor-made an informed cadre of sustainability professionals who are well-equipped to tackle, beyond cultural boundaries and sectoral divisions, the interwoven challenges of environmental impacts and ecosystem vulnerability, and have been solution providers to both mitigation and adaptation to climate change that led to a more sustainable development pathway, especially in a post-COVID-19 era.

In his keynote address **Prof. V.K. Saraswat**, while congratulating the students, emphasized that they are graduating at a time when India is surging forward in all fields. “As transformation leaders from this quality institution, you have the responsibility of balancing the ‘Energy, Environment and Sustainability Trilemma’ and work towards building a ‘knowledge economy’ which is built on the fundamentals of sustainable development,” said Prof. Saraswat.

The **Chancellor, TERI SAS, Dr Shailesh Nayak** in his address congratulated the outgoing students for the interdisciplinary knowledge gained at TERI SAS. The emphasis should be on solution-oriented approaches in order to anticipate or predict and manage global environmental changes through research on transformative pathways, scenarios, and

innovation. Such approaches will facilitate understanding the requirement of what kind of institutional, economic, social, technological, and behavioural changes are required to attain global sustainability, said Dr Nayak. He added, “I am sure, by building global capabilities for long term, sustained observing systems and network, Earth system models, data management systems and infrastructure, we can achieve global sustainability.”

Thanking Prof. Saraswat for his motivating speech, **Prof. Prateek Sharma, Vice-Chancellor, TERI SAS**, spoke about the legacy TERI SAS carries as an institute and how it is the collective responsibility of all including the outgoing students to add new feathers to the institute’s cap. “It is a matter of pride that the convocation is happening at a time when India has the G20 Presidency. The mission at TERI SAS has always been to produce climate leaders who can be instrumental to enhance global efforts to foster growth and development while pursuing strong climate ambitions. TERI SAS is committed as a research-led institution to develop a knowledge economy based on the principles of sustainability, and I am sure the outgoing students share a special responsibility in pushing the sustainability agenda, broad enough for every sector of the economy to have a multiplier effect for the coming generations,” said Prof. Sharma.

TERI SAS is one of the eminent institutes in the country in the field of sustainability education. It was conceived to disseminate the knowledge base created by The Energy and Resources Institute. It offers 13 masters programmes and an interdisciplinary PhD programme in the seven thematic areas of Bioresources and Biotechnology, Business Sustainability, Energy and Environment, Natural Resources Management, Policy Studies, Legal Studies, and Water Science and Governance at its campus in Vasant Kunj, New Delhi and is also coming up with a campus at Hyderabad, Telangana.

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