

## Dare To Be Crazy, ISRO Chief Mantra To IIT Bhubaneswar Grads

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Life is no rocket science but comprises simple fundamentals to move ahead and achieve success. And who better knows it than the best rocket scientist in India today.

ISRO chairman K Sivan banked on his personal experiences to motivate and teach some valuable life lessons to young IITians in Bhubaneswar.

“Life and career are not about making the best choices in life, but in making the best of the opportunities available to you,” Sivan said while speaking as the chief guest at the 8th convocation of IIT Bhubaneswar held on its Argul campus, Jatni on Saturday.

Exhorting future innovators and entrepreneurs to dare to be “crazy”, he said, “Don’t throw your crazy ideas because most successful and innovative ideas are the result of crazy ideas. Crazy ideas are not as useless as they often lead to the best innovations.”

Sharing his own experience, he said, “When I was doing my PhD, I came up with a crazy idea and started developing a theory based on that. Somewhere I drifted and threw my idea in a dustbin. Then I started working on the conventional method, but my professor didn’t like it. He was interested to see my crazy idea. I went back and picked up my original idea from the dustbin and it eventually helped me get my PhD. Always believe in your ideas and try to conceptualize it which would help you to achieve success. Moreover, one should never stop learning as it is a continuous process.”

He added, “Lots of start-ups are coming up, but most of them imitate each other which is why they fail. We should come up with our own idea or else we won’t succeed. We must always ask ourselves the question of whether a thing could be done in a different way.”

## **Chatting On Chandrayaan-2**

Earlier in the day, he shared details about the Chandrayaan-2 mission with media persons after his arrival at Biju Patnaik Airport in Bhubaneswar.

“The Chandrayaan-2 mission’s orbiter is functioning well. Its systems are functioning and now we are operating the payload, which is a first of its kind. It has a high-resolution camera which can very precisely map the moon surface. There is a dual-band which has synthetic approach radar that would be useful for providing information about water rise in the moon’s south polar region. Similarly, all scientific payloads are functioning well.”

He further said, “Though Chandrayaan-2 has been designed for one year with optimum mission management, we can now make it available for over seven years. We would get data for seven years which would benefit scientists. Many discoveries may come out of the orbiter payload experiments.”



On the mission’s Lander Vikram, the ISRO chief said, “There is total communication loss with Vikram and we can’t do anything about this. The link between earth and Vikram has been lost.”

Asked about future programs by the space agency, Sivan said, “We have many programs lined up. The first project on a small satellite launch vehicle is likely to happen by the end of December or January. Aditya L1 mission is another project which would probe the sun and it will also happen soon. Gaganyaan is another big project on which we are working. The target is to complete it by the end of next year.”

## **Good Show IIT Bhubaneswar**

During the convocation, Director of IIT Bhubaneswar Prof RV Raja Kumar and other dignitaries conferred degrees to 32 PhD scholars, 105 M.Tech, 67 MSc and 152 B.Tech students.

Overwhelmed that the institute had tripled its placements with an average one-and-a-half times rise in salaries, Kumar emphasized on raising the standard on all fronts including internationalization of academics programmes, international collaborations on research of high industrial & societal relevance, doubling of PhD scholars' intake, massive plantations and rapid strides made in research and developmental activities of the institute over the past one year.

### **And The Toppers Are**

Shrohan Mohapatra of Computer Science and Engineering was awarded the President of India Gold Medal for best academic performance among the outgoing B. Tech batch of students. Rahul Das from the School of Infrastructure was awarded the Director's Gold Medal for best academic performance among the outgoing M.Tech students. Anubhav Nath of the School of Basic Sciences was awarded the Director's Gold Medal for best academic performance among the outgoing MSc batch of students.

For the best academic performance in the respective schools, the Institute Silver Medals were awarded to Shrohan Mohapatra, Gonuguntla Neeharika, Indira Singh Dhakar, Gaurav Vishal and Chaudhari Hrishikesh Umesh among the outgoing B. Tech. batch of students.

For the best academic performance in the respective schools, the Institute Silver Medals were awarded to Rahul Das, Abhishek Parida, Srija Mukherjee, Ananta Dutta P Abhishek and Spandan Dey among the outgoing M.Tech batch of students.

For the best academic performance in the respective schools, the Institute Silver Medals were awarded to Anubhav Nath, Sharmistha Dey, Kaushik Nageswar Jaiswal and Sujay Nandi among the outgoing MSc batch of students.