

The ICFAI University, Sikkim Holds its 18th Convocation at Chintan Bhawan, Gangtok
Gangtok, Sikkim | October 15, 2025





The ICF AI University, Sikkim held its 18th Convocation Ceremony at Chintan Bhawan, Gangtok on Wednesday. The ceremony was presided over by Prof. O. R. S. Rao, Hon'ble Chancellor of the University. Hon'ble Mr. Justice Biswanath Somadder, Chief Justice, High Court of Sikkim, graced the occasion as Chief Guest. Shri Raju Basnet, Hon'ble Minister for Education, Sports & Youth Affairs, Law & Parliamentary Affairs, and Shri Pintso Namgyal Lepcha, Hon'ble Minister for Forest & Environment, attended as Guests of Honour. Hon'ble Dr. Justice D. Y. Chandrachud, Former Chief Justice of India, joined as the Distinguished Guest of Honour.

Dr Jagannath Patnaik, Vice Chancellor in his convocation address, highlighted the University's remarkable journey and reaffirmed its unwavering commitment to research, innovation, employability, and community engagement. He emphasized the institution's role in shaping not just skilled professionals but responsible citizens who would contribute meaningfully to society. The Vice-Chancellor applauded the graduating class for their perseverance and achievements, encouraging them to embrace lifelong learning and remain adaptable in an ever-evolving world. He expressed pride in the University's growing reputation as a center of academic excellence in the Northeast and urged the graduates to carry forward the values of integrity, innovation, and social responsibility as they embark

on their professional journeys. Hon'ble Mr. Justice Biswanath Somadder, Chief Justice, High Court of Sikkim in his address, congratulated the graduates and urged that the purpose of education is to gain knowledge which leads to emancipation, otherwise it will have no meaning at all. He beseeched all students to follow this as a motto while they proceed to receive education from this University and progress in life.

Hon'ble Dr. Justice D. Y. Chandrachud, Former Chief Justice of India, delivered the inspiring convocation address as the Distinguished Guest of Honour. In his speech, Justice Chandrachud emphasized the transformative power of education and urged the graduates to become agents of positive change in society. He spoke about the importance of constitutional values, the rule of law, and the need for young professionals to uphold justice and equality in their respective fields. Justice Chandrachud encouraged the graduating class to remain curious, embrace diversity, and develop empathy as they navigate their professional careers. He highlighted that true success lies not merely in personal achievements but in contributing to the welfare of society and protecting the rights of the marginalized. His words resonated deeply with the audience as he reminded the graduates that education carries with it the responsibility to serve the nation with dedication and integrity. Shri Pintso Namgyal Lepcha lauded the University's role in nurturing talent and advancing the higher-education ecosystem in Sikkim.

The ceremony was attended by members of the Governing Council, the Vice-Chancellor, Pro-Vice-Chancellor Dr. Hemanta Kumar Panda, the Registrar, Dean, Heads of Departments, faculty, students, alumni, and invited guests, who joined in celebrating the achievements of the Class of 2025. The Registrar proposed the vote of thanks, acknowledging the dignitaries, faculty, students, parents, and partners for their support. The ceremony concluded with the National Anthem and a group photograph capturing the pride of the graduating cohort and their mentors.

Honorary doctorates were conferred upon Hon'ble Mr. Justice Biswanath Somadder, Chief Justice, High Court of Sikkim (Doctor of Philosophy); Hon'ble Dr. Justice D. Y. Chandrachud, Former Chief Justice of India (Doctor of Laws); Dr. Saumitra Rawat, Padma Shri, Chairman & Head, Institute of Surgical Gastroenterology, Sir Ganga Ram Hospital (Doctor of Science); and Mr. Souvagya Kumar Mohapatra, Managing Director, Atmosphere Hotels & Resorts (Doctor of Philosophy). In addition, the ICFAI Fellowship was conferred upon Dr. Ashwani Lochan, Chairman, World Education Mission, in recognition of his outstanding contribution to education and social development.

The University presented Lifetime Achievement Awards to Shri C. M. Ravindran, Former Director General of Police, Govt. of Sikkim; Shri Kedar Nath Gurung, Padma Shri Awardee; Shri Jas Lal Pradhan, Arjuna Awardee and Olympian; Dr. Alok Kumar Gupta, Deputy Director, Capacity Building Cell, NIOS; Mr. Guru Tshering Ladakhi, CEO, Entel Motors Pvt. Ltd., Sikkim; and Dr. Tirupati Panigrahi, Chairman, Hi-Tech Group of Institutions (HGI). The Young Entrepreneur Award was presented to Ms. Rinzing Choden Bhutia of Agapi Sustainable Skincare, while the Industry Innovation Award was conferred upon 241 BREWHOUSE, Sikkim's first craft brewery.