

PRESS REPORT

Mumbai
January 20, 2017

The 66th Convocation Ceremony of SNDTWU was held on 20 January 2017 at the Sir Sitaram and Lady Shantabai Patkar Deekshant Sabhagriha. This is the 101st year of existence of SNDT Women's University having been founded in 1916 by the intrepid social reformer Maharshi Dhondo Keshav Karve.

In this convocation, Degrees and Diplomas will be awarded to 11,843 students for successful completion of undergraduate, postgraduate, doctoral as well as diploma programmes. A total of 47 Ph.D degrees were conferred in 19 subjects during this convocation.

During this convocation the Degrees of Master of Visual Arts with Portraiture, Bachelor of Commerce with Accountancy and Finance, Bachelor and Master of Special Education in Mental Retardation and Intellectual Disability and Bachelor of Technology with Electronics Engineering were given for the first time. A total of 179 degrees and diplomas for 12 faculties were granted during this convocation.

Shri Ch. Vidyasagar Rao, Governor of Maharashtra and Chancellor of the University presided over the function. **Chandrashekhar S Dharmadhikari**, Hon'ble Chief Justice (Retd.) Bombay High Court was the Chief Guest and delivered the convocation address. **Prof. Shashikala Wanjari**, Vice Chancellor of the University presented the convocation report. Degree of Letters (D.Litt) Honoris Causa was awarded to **Dr Aruna Vanikar** from Ahmedabad, Gujarat for her contribution to the field of renal and transplant pathology.

In her message to the students Honourable madam Vice Chancellor, Prof. Shashikala Wanjari exhorted the students to become good ambassadors of the University and be role models in their respective hometowns and state. She asked them to live and promote a sense of high integrity and moral values instilled by their parents, teachers and alma mater.

Dr. Vanikar in her acceptance speech of Honoris Causa said that there is a relationship between science, technology and education. Science and research without humanity is blind. She emphasised that there is no need for India to go to the world as now the world is coming to India for knowledge quoting Swami Vivekananda and Sant Dhyaneswar.

In his convocation address Justice Dharmadhikari stated the need for girls to become fearless and 'Swarakshit' rather than 'Surakshit'. Citing his experiences with Maharshi and praising SNDTWU he stated that SNDT is not only an University but a world in itself. It needs to be recognised as Central University. He urged the new generation to go ahead and not become carbon copies or pocket edition of the previous generation. Keeping up the vision of Maharshi Karve he urged that the education system be built on harmony and friendship rather than competition.