



**Dr. Dinesh Patel** is the Managing Director & CEO of Themis Medicare Limited, an Indian Joint Venture Pharmaceutical Company of Gedeon Richter Limited, Hungary, established in 1969, having its Factory at Vapi, Gujarat State.

A Doctorate in Medicinal Chemistry, Dr. Dinesh Patel played a crucial role in the development of drugs like Lovastatin for the first time in Asia and for which Themis Medicare was awarded the DSIR National Award in 1997. Under his guidance and control Themis Medicare has been able to introduce many new molecules and NDDS products over the years.

Born on 2nd November, 1948, Dr Dinesh Patel obtained his M. Sc., Ph. D., C. Chem., and FRSC (London) successively. Moreover, he completed the Certificate Course in Business Management from Jammalal Bajaj Institute of Management, Mumbai. He also received the scholarship from TESCO, Budapest, Hungary for study in Research in Factory Management.

Dr Dinesh Patel's distinguished professional career commenced with THEMIS in the year 1974 and now he is the Managing Director and CEO of this Pharmaceutical Company. He has also held important positions such as President of Artemis Biotech, Hyderabad; Chairman of Gujarat Themis Biosyn Ltd. (GTBL), a joint venture with Yuhan Corporation, Korea; Vice-Chairman of Richter Themis Medicare (India) Pvt. Ltd. (RTML), and Director on the Board of Directors of Bank of Maharashtra. He had also been the Director of Bank of Punjab and Malladi Drugs & Pharmaceuticals Ltd., Chennai. Under the entrepreneurial leadership of Dr. Dinesh Patel, Themis Medicare has been a pioneer in the production and offering of various products for the first time to consumers in India, Asia and the world-especially in the ANTI-TB and ANTI-MALARIAL segments.

Dr Dinesh Patel has also been instrumental in reviving the BIFR units like Andhra Synthetics & Antibiotics Ltd., a joint sector project of the Andhra Pradesh Government, through a merger with Artemis Pharmaceuticals Ltd., now Artemis Biotech, Division of Themis Medicare Ltd. as well as Gujarat Themis Biosyn Ltd. (GTBL), a joint sector project of Gujarat Government.

Apart from these entrepreneurial successes, Dr Dinesh Patel has also contributed profusely in the field of research. The number of total Patent Applications filed by him, in India and abroad, including the US, is around 65; 25 Patents are already granted and 10 Patents are at the various stages of process. He has also filed around fifty scholarly and original research papers. He has also delivered lectures and public talks at various national and international forums. He has also offered his precious services to various public institutes, educational and research institutions, government organisations and ministries.

Dr Dinesh Patel's entrepreneurial achievements were appreciated and he was honoured with the Udyog Ratna Award in 1989 from the Institute of Economic Studies, presented by the former President of India – Hon. Giani Zail Singh – for contribution in the field of Biotechnology and Development of Life Saving Antibiotics (Rifampicin, Gentamicin, Sisomicin, Erythromycin, etc.). Dr Dinesh Patel was bestowed with the Order of Merit of Hungary-Highest State Order of Hungary, by the President of Hungary in 2013.

# 56<sup>th</sup>

**ANNUAL  
CONVOCATION CEREMONY  
Sunday, 15 December 2013**

**CONVOCATION ADDRESS**

by

**Dr Dinesh Patel**  
Managing Director,  
Themis Medicare Ltd., Mumbai



**SARDAR PATEL UNIVERSITY**  
Vallabh Vidyanagar - 388 120, Gujarat

**Sardar Patel University  
Vallabh Vidyanagar**

**56<sup>th</sup> Annual Convocation**

Sunday, 15<sup>th</sup> December 2013

**Convocation Address**

**Dr Dinesh Patel**

Managing Director, Themis Medicare Ltd., Mumbai

- Chancellor of Sardar Patel University, Honorable Governor of Gujarat, Smt. Dr Kamlaji,
- Honorable Vice-Chancellor, Dr Harish Padh,
- Learned Members of the Academic Council,
- Honorable Senate and Syndicate members of Sardar Patel University
- Respected Faculty Members and Staff
- Shining Scholars
- Graduating and Graduated students
- Distinguished guests and friends
- Ladies and Gentlemen

Today, as I rise to address the 56th convocation of Sardar Patel University, I consider it a day of great honour and privilege for me in my life. I am thankful to the Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Harish Padh for giving me this honor and opportunity to

visit Sardar Patel University and RPTP College, where I was a student 47 years ago.

I have always considered Vallabh Vidyanagar as a city of scholars, and Sardar Patel University as a temple of knowledge.

Today, as I stand at Sardar Patel University, a temple of knowledge, I would first like to start with my respectful and heartfelt vandan to all my gurus and teachers like Prof. Dr. Rabari, Prof I. I. Patel, Prof M. C. Patel, Prof. Shah and many more. I am indebted for their contribution in giving me strong foundation in academics and, whatever I am today.

Today is the day which belongs to new graduating students. All of you have worked very hard. All of you will receive your graduate degree in your hand. My sincere congratulations to each one of you for having achieved your goal.

I am sure each one of you will cherish this day in your life and for years to come.

Today as I address new graduating students with bubbling ideas and aspirations, I do not wish to influence you with my views on current scenarios on politics, economy, and happenings around us. I will restrain myself from talking about national problem or political scenario, global economy and growth opportunity etc.

Today I will talk on some of the ground realities of life and factors, characters needed to be adopted for success in life. I will talk about changes taking place around us and changes expected from you in this changing environment of the world.

Graduating students, now from this moment, you are graduates, and degree holders. I would like you to remember you are

learned graduates, however you should also remember that learning process never ends. Process of learning and appetite for learning should always be there till the last breath of life.

Untill today you have been learning from your parents, teachers, gurus, friends. In the time to come you will have to learn from your colleagues, your assistants and superiors. And in the most important phase of life, that is old age, you will again have to be student of your grandchildren to keep yourself updated with new developments in the world.

I consider graduate degree is a ticket to a good life. Today, let me suggest to you to think little differently and more objectively. Think that obtaining graduate degree is a ticket to changed world and for changing the world further.

A graduates' degree has opened the door for building up your career. Now it is up to you to recognize your internal strengths, understand your capability and design the road map for your future.

For that, I ask you to think differently, have the courage to live life purposefully, pursue your dreams, and find your passion. Find your own cause, and be passionate about it. Multiple problems will be appearing in life but change is possible and it is young and intelligent people like you who would shape the destiny of yourself and India.

Graduating students, our generation has lived the life under the regime of protected environment. Post independence up to early 90's in last century, all Indians, industry and the country have lived life under protection.

Politicians were protected by framing laws in their own favor; banks were protected by developing their own banking laws

and policies for lending and borrowing and industry lived under a non-competitive environment from international markets. Various service industries were enjoying monopolistic situation. All were at the cost of the consumer.

Now we have entered 21st century. All of you are a product of 21st century. Your generation is living in a competitive environment. Things are changing at a rapid rate.

Communication and technology development during the last century is making people to think what is next, is this race going to end or what will be the end point in development.

Let us rewind time, go back in time to understand the development and progress. It is said that news of arrival of Columbus to USA took 6 months to reach the Queen of Spain. The news of Lincoln's killing in America took six weeks to reach the streets of Paris. However now the news of Ganpati idols drinking milk took 6 hours and terrorist attack on the world trade center took 6 seconds to reach masses. In fact people watched the live footage on their television.

This is a changed world and now your generation will have to adapt and learn to live with frequent changes. Your generation will have to develop the flexibility in adapting the changes in all fields of life.

Each citizen of your generation and each corporate including industries, banks and service sector and India as a country will have to follow and implement the global laws and systems. This means more competition and more changes from the present environment. This will make you think everything in perspective of global standing and survival in the global environment.

As a matter of fact, I say the real phase of Darwin theory will come into existence. Now globally, it will be survival of the fittest and all will have to fight for their survival.

The top position now is given on the basis of strength and capability and ability to perform. You will observe in the 21st century an arts graduate can lead a team of chemical experts. Today as a science graduate you can lead the bank or commerce graduate can lead a pharmaceutical company. The final top position is for the person who has capacity to create resources, ability to put the resources together and co-ordinate and use the resources to meet the company goals and take the institution to greater heights. Ultimately what matters is the ability to lead and leadership quality.

You have graduated and tomorrow you will select your own field relating to arts, commerce, science etc. The most important thing which this 21st century recognizes is-

- Innovation
- Protection of innovation and
- Commercialization of innovation.

Keep these 3 functions in front of you and believe me, today these three functions are the ones which are recognized as key to success.

Let me start with the concept of innovation. The subject of innovation can be related to any field under the sky. Innovation will give you recognition among friends, society and the world. This innovation leads to second step, protection of innovation. This protection will prevent anyone else from copying or duplicating and will strengthen your idea and recognition. It can be protected by patenting or copyrights or secrecy etc.

After protection, the innovation can be commercialized which will fulfill the need in society for developing the financial strength. Hence, do not move away from innovation. Put your heart and soul into innovation, think out of the box, invent, and it will be a great satisfaction to see you all get patents for your inventions. Now, as you are graduates, basic passport holders, you are free to select your own future. You will select your future on the basis of your liking and strength. Someone may want to be a successful engineer, or someone may want to be a doctor, professor, actor, director, artist, businessman, politician, philosopher cricketer and so on. You have an opened sky for building up your future.

Please - wherever you are and whatever you are - it is only innovation in the field you enter or select will determine your success. In this 21st century, your ability to bring innovation in your ideas and action will put your name as a successful person in the respective field. 21st century has created environment of a great competition. Just look at the things around you and you will conclude that the element of innovation in the environment is prevailing for success. You take any case or field - cricket, pharmaceutical, industry, music you will find change and an element of change.

Innovation is a product of individual brain. The most recent examples I can narrate are-

(i) In the field of cricket, Lalit Modi is a popular name. With the innovation of new format of 20-20 cricket he made great success for himself as he not only became wealthier but also made BCCI and the country wealthier. This is one of the best achievements and glaring example of innovation in the field of sports.

(ii) Another glaring example I would like to narrate here, is the innovation in Bollywood. Introduction of “item song”. In recent movies, item songs performed by guest artist, and releasing the movie at one time in multiple theatres gave success to the movie at box office. All movie makers became members of the 100 crore club. Again an example of innovation by one brain. One can narrate number of innovations starting from the field of mobiles, computers, cars, toys, entertainment etc which has generated the wealth of individuals and nation.

When I speak about innovation, protection and commercialization I am referring to the subject of intellectual property rights and patenting of invention. Your and countrys future greatly depends on innovation, protection and commercialization.

I distinctly remember my first experiment at RPTP physics laboratory in 1966. In the first year, as a prep student. Sardar Patel University was the first to introduce new innovative course in Physics and Chemistry on a experimental basis. Very interestingly on the first day first experiment every student was given was very innovative. Every student was given one candle of 6 inches and a match box. Every student was asked to note down their observations after lighting of the candle on the log book. Time given was 2 hours. Just imagine how many observations one can think off. To my and everyone's astonishment - all students came up with more than 200 observations. This experiment proved and taught us to see everything with a open mind, concentrate on the subject, observe and analyze things around. Even today, this is a main feature of my learning process.

Lately I have observed, India and we as Indians are losing grip on fundamental science, skill and invention, which are the backbone of economical success of the country.

I request you to study the success stories of Germany, Japan, China, Russia, France and United States. One finds that these countries have strong foundation in science and have developed the technological skill. I personally feel university, government and society should recognize this and take necessary steps to introduce the culture of science, skill and technology. The ratio between commercial expert and scientific expert should tilt towards science for strengthening the country's economy on a long term basis.

The success of the country lies in quality of culture of that country. Culture is derived from the character of the people. I have observed and studied the success stories of certain smaller and lesser populated countries of Europe.

One such country which I would like to refer today is a small country - Hungary.

Hungary is of one-tenth size of Gujarat with a population of one crore Hungarians. Such a small country with a small population has produced 17 Nobel Prize winners. These 17 Nobel Prize winners are from different fields of life. I consider one of the principle characters of Hungarians behind this success, which is the principle of utilizing time for doing something. Hungarians are by nature always busy in creating something or reading or doing something or the other. I have seen even taxi drivers, bus drivers or shop keepers, during their free time in the bus, taxi or shop reading with interest and keeping themselves busy. You will never find people wasting time and energy or lying idle. This culture of gaining

knowledge and hardwork has contributed to the success of Hungarians and Hungary.

One day someone asked me to name the biggest and most modern research laboratory in the world. Instantly my answer was each day I come across the most modern and biggest laboratory. Innovation starts with the brain. The brain according to me is the largest and most modern research laboratory that God has created. All innovation is the outcome of the human brain. The human brain also has a memory chip which can store information equal to gigantic computer. The brain is a laboratory and factory developing and producing ideas and innovation. It is up to us to develop and direct the brain for the purpose of innovation.

As in Vidyanagar, two innovations come to my mind:

1. Prof. Kurien's innovation in development of co-operative dairy which has become a symbol, not only in India but in neighboring countries as well.
2. A very interesting individual innovation which was in the early 70's in Vidyanagar which few guests here might recollect. A shop called "Music center" offering recorded music cassettes of personalized choice of songs, or clubbing popular songs in one cassette. This was very innovative idea born in Vidyanagar which later became popular in Gujarat and Maharashtra.

I have spent considerable time of my life in the field of health care. Today, if I do not convey to you the changes in the field of healthcare, disease and treatment, then I will not be doing justice to my profession and to all of you.

The word 'Cancer' was good enough to make man die. It is no more like that now. 'Cancer is curable'. This is the slogan and future of cancer treatment. Early detection of cancer, with invention of newer medicines and personal treatment has made cancer curable. Similarly tuberculosis is no more a life threatening disease. Millions of tuberculosis patients are treated successfully and are enjoying normal life. Today HIV and diabetes are controllable disease and medical professionals have a wide choice for treatment depending upon the patient profile.

To live life, wealth is considered to be one of the important elements. One can demonstrate the wealth by possession of property, rupee, dollar, pound, euro currency etc. All of them have one common characteristic. This common characteristic is that the value can go up or down or is a subject of speculation. The current period proves that most important recognized wealth or currency is knowledge. Now-a-days knowledge is traded. Knowledge is the most valuable currency of the world and it will be the most important wealth that anyone can carry around. Just learn, how in short time Apple, Samsung, Microsoft, Infosys and inventors have built up the wealth. All are knowledge based wealth creators.

So my personal message to each one of you is - do not waste your time. Be busy in gaining knowledge and use the knowledge for creativity. This is going to be your wealth.

I have found in life - concentration, commitment and courage - are important elements and keys to success. The best example for this is from the oldest mythology written by the Ved Vyas - Mahabharat. In Mahabharat these qualities have been demonstrated in the characters of Arjun, Bhism and Abhimanyu. Arjun had the quality of concentration which gave him success. Bishm had commitment towards nation which

gave him recognition. Abhimanyu at a very young age got name and recognition as 'Vir' due to his courage.

This is the modern 21st century. I analyzed one character of Bollywood movie - 3 idiots created by Vidhu Vinod Chopra. The character having all the above mentioned qualities is Ranchhoddas Chanchad - this is one character, which if one analyses minutely, says many things and has learning values for students.

We know the strength of the character and what he got due to these qualities of concentration, commitment and courage and at the end he demonstrated that he has had an open mind to accept "Dekha nakh beech mein nahi aatey" for his benefit.

God has given us a life to be lived with good health. All of us will be passing through the phase of ageing. My earnest and sincere request is to follow the slogan : HEALTH IS WEALTH.

Believe me, in future health maintenance will not be easy. As you grow, it will be expensive. The treatment to maintain life has already started rising, hence it is better you don't face problems in old age. Please check on your life style and plan life according to your bodily needs.

I am quite sure as a student of Sardar Patel University you will be successful in the respective field that you choose. One thing that I would like you to achieve besides being successful in the field that you choose - is the characteristic of being recognized as a good human being. This quality of being a good human being is now days or in this modern world very scarce or in minority. Sardar Patel - a man who created one India, was not only a disciplined leader but above all a good human being and this gives status which each student of Sardar Patel University and Indian must be proud of!

Before I conclude my talk I have a small message to convey. In life, day dreaming is very productive if it is creative.

I would say - let the dream become a vision, then the vision gets converted to a mission

As far as Vallabh Vidyanagar is concerned, I have a dream, something that I would like to share with you. Vallabh Vidyanagar, town of scholars should become like a town of Oxford or Cambridge. Sardar Patel University should enjoy the status like Oxford or Cambridge University in the world. Sardar Patel University should be on the world map. The students of Sardar Patel University should enjoy the same respect, recognition like Cambridge or Oxford University. It is a known fact that both of them took 500 years to achieve global leadership and as Sardar Patel University is 58 years old, let us hope and work so that in next 200 years Sardar Patel University reaches the level of Cambridge or Oxford. As it is said Rome was not built overnight. This will apply to Sardar Patel University also. Let generation after generation invest their best to build the reputation of this institute.

Finally, as I arrive at closing remark of my talk once again I would like to express my sincere thanks to Dr. Prof. Harish Padh, members of the Syndicate and Senate members for giving me this opportunity to express my personal views on this 56th Annual Convocation Day.

I am thankful to each one of you for your undivided attention and patience.

Once again, I wish all the best to new graduates, good health, wealth and happiness in life to all present here. - THANK YOU !!

\* \* \*