

# A spectacular convocation ceremony

At the convocation ceremony of BITS Pilani, K K Birla Goa Campus, students were awarded their degrees at the hands of renowned historian and biographer Dr Ramachandra Guha



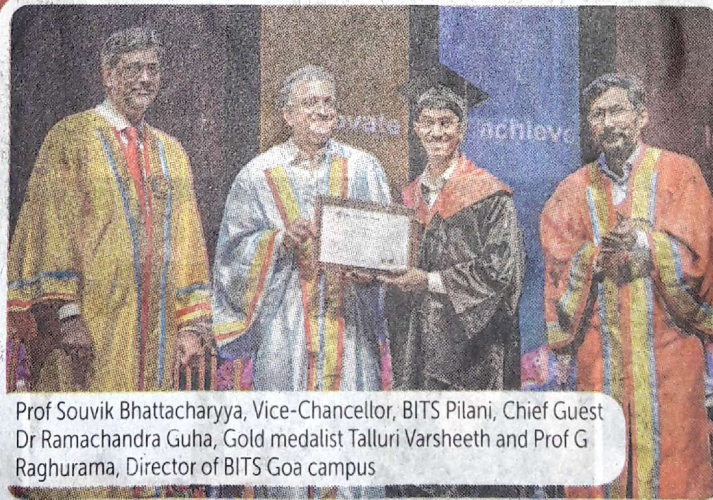
Prof Souvik Bhattacharyya, Vice-Chancellor, BITS Pilani awarding PhD to Suresh Chandra G

Team Café [cafe@herald-goa.com](mailto:cafe@herald-goa.com)

BITS Pilani, K K Birla Goa Campus hosted the 80th and 81st Award Convocation 2017 at its Campus at Zuarinagar on Sunday, August 13, 2017. The Chief Guest of the occasion was renowned historian, erudite scholar and reputed columnist Dr Ramachandra Guha. The top three students from the Bachelor's degree programs who received their medals at the hands of Dr Guha were Talluri Varsheeth (Gold medal), Ayush Sharma (Silver medal) and Sudeep Mishra (Bronze medal). This year, 625 students received their degrees, of which, 21 were PhDs.

Prof Souvik Bhattacharyya, Vice-Chancellor, BITS Pilani, Prof G Raghurama, Director of BITS Goa campus, Prof S C Sivasubramanian, Registrar, BITS Pilani, members of the Senate, faculty members of Goa campus and other distinguished guests, along with the graduating students and their family members were present on this joyous occasion.

Dr Guha also presented one of the five Distinguished Alumnus Awards of 2017 to Hari Menon (CEO, BigBasket.Com). The other four awardees who received their awards at other BITS campuses include



Prof Souvik Bhattacharyya, Vice-Chancellor, BITS Pilani, Chief Guest Dr Ramachandra Guha, Gold medalist Talluri Varsheeth and Prof G Raghurama, Director of BITS Goa campus



Chief Guest Dr Ramachandra Guha, Distinguished Alumnus Awardee of 2017 to Hari Menon (CEO, BigBasket.Com)

Prof Govindan Rangarajan (Professor, Department of Mathematics, IISc Bangalore), Prof Narayana R Alluru (Kritzer Professor, Department of Mechanical Science and Engineering, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign), Harish Bhat (Chairman, Tata Coffee Ltd) and Raghu Rajagopal (Co-Founder and CEO of DATRI, Head – Global Strategy - Ivy Mobility, Co-Founder and Director - The Green Peppers).

In his convocation address, Dr Guha highlighted the cultural, linguistic and religious diversity as the hall mark of our nation. He also pointed out that the greatness of India has emanated from our civilisational depth and the rich tradition of democracy.

In his message to the students, Dr Kumar Mangalam Birla, Chancellor of BITS Pilani, urged the graduating students to be innovative and disruptive

for being creative. He pointed out that disruption displaces an existing market, industry or technology and creates something new, more efficient and worthwhile.

Prof Bhattacharyya, presented an overview of the university's accomplishments, and in particular, highlighted its pioneering role in fostering innovation and entrepreneurship in higher education. Prof Raghurama gave a detailed report of BITS Pilani Goa Campus, offering a comprehensive overview of the advances in research, new initiatives and collaborations of the Institute. Prof. Neena Goveas, Convener of Convocation 2017, concluded the ceremony with the Vote of Thanks.

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