

“जननी जन्मभूमिश्च स्वर्गादपि गरीयसी”

“Janani Janmabhumiścha Swargadapi Gariyasi”

One’s mother and motherland are superior to the highest heavens.

Dear fellow members of the CUAP community,

On the occasion of the 79th celebrations of India’s independence, I extend my hearty congratulations and best wishes to you all.

This occasion gives us the opportunity to pay tribute to our great freedom fighters, such as Mahatma Gandhi, Vinayak Damodar Savarkar, Dadabhai Naoroji, K. M. Munshi, Jawaharlal Nehru, Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel, Lala Lajpat Rai, Bal Gangadhar Tilak, Bipin Chandra Pal, Chittaranjan Das, Bhagat Singh, Khudiram Bose, Lal Bahadur Shastri, Baba Saheb Abedkar, Chandrashekar Azad, Subhash Chandra Bose, Mangal Pandey, Sukhdev, Rani Lakshmibai of Jhansi, Sarojini Naidu, and Savitribai Phule and many more.

We must always remember that the path to freedom was not achieved in a single day, but took decades of strength, courage, and unity from the leaders, the freedom fighters, and the common people. There are unsung heroes of the Indian freedom movement – the ones who sacrificed, fought, and organized tirelessly, but whose names are less often heard in popular narratives. These unsung heroes came from distant corners of the subcontinent, belonged to varied communities, and fought in different ways – yet were united by a single goal: freedom from British rule. Their contributions span over two and a half centuries, from the early sparks of resistance in the 18th century to the final years before 1947.

Long before the mainstream national movement developed, resistance to colonial rule emerged through scattered yet powerful uprisings. In Tamil Nadu, Velu Nachiyar (1730–1796), the courageous queen of Sivaganga, waged war against the British and became the first Indian queen to reclaim her kingdom from colonial forces in 1780. In Karnataka, Kittur Chennamma (1778–1829) fiercely fought against the Doctrine of

Lapse, inspiring future generations of women freedom fighters. During this period, other struggles erupted among ordinary people. The Paika Rebellion in Odisha in 1817, led by Bakshi Jagabandhu, rallied armed peasant warriors against oppressive British land policies. In Bengal, the Sannyasi and Fakir Rebellion (1760s–1800s) saw bands of monks and mendicants rise against crushing revenue demands, foreshadowing more organised revolts to come. The year 1857 marked a turning point in the struggle, known as the First War of Independence. It saw a wave of leaders from various backgrounds take up arms. Rani Avantibai Lodhi of Madhya Pradesh led her troops with unmatched bravery before falling in battle in 1858. In Bihar, Peer Ali Khan distributed revolutionary pamphlets and organised local uprisings, ultimately paying with his life. Tantia Tope, a master tactician, carried on guerrilla warfare for years after the main revolt was suppressed, becoming a symbol of defiance. Even after 1857, resistance did not fade; it merely changed form. Among tribal communities, Birsa Munda (1875–1900) led the Ulgulan (Great Tumult), challenging British exploitation of indigenous lands and sparking a cultural and political awakening among the Mundas. Similarly, Sidhu and Kanhu Murmu spearheaded the Santhal Rebellion of 1855–56, which shook British authority in eastern India.

The early 1900s marked the beginning of a new phase in the struggle, with revolutionaries operating both within and outside India. In 1907, Bhikaji Cama, from Paris, raised an early version of the Indian national flag at the Socialist Congress in Stuttgart, appealing to the world for India's independence. Lala Hardayal, based in the United States, founded the Ghadar Party, rallying Indian expatriates to prepare for armed rebellions. In the 1920s, regional armed struggles kept the spirit alive. In Andhra Pradesh, Alluri Sitarama Raju (1897–1924) led the Rampa Rebellion, organizing tribal fighters in daring guerrilla activity campaigns. In Tamil Nadu, Tiruppur Kumaran founded the Desa Bandhu Youth Association and died while holding the banned national flag during a protest in 1932. The 1930s saw an expansion of Gandhian mass movements alongside

underground revolutionary activities. Kamaladevi Chattopadhyay played a key role in mobilising women during the Salt Satyagraha and later in reviving Indian handicrafts. Ganesh Shankar Vidyarthi, a fearless journalist, used his pen to expose British oppression and worked tirelessly for communal harmony, dying while trying to stop riots in 1931. By the 1940s, the struggle entered its final and most intense phase. Usha Mehta, just 22 years old, ran the underground Congress Radio during the Quit India Movement, broadcasting messages of defiance across the nation. Aruna Asaf Ali defied police orders to hoist the tricolour flag at Bombay's Gowalia Tank Maidan in 1942, becoming a symbol of resistance. From the Northeast, Rani Gaidinliu, a young tribal leader, transformed a religious movement into a powerful campaign against British rule.

The unsung heroes of India's freedom movement came from villages and cities, palaces and humble homes, fields and factories. Some fought with weapons, while others fought with words; some challenged the British in open battle, while others worked quietly in the shadows. Their stories remind us that India's independence was not the achievement of a few but the collective sacrifice of thousands. By remembering them, we not only honour their memory but also reclaim a richer, more inclusive history – one where every act of courage, whether famous or forgotten, contributed to shaping a free India. Some months...some dates create history. Their importance does not dilute even in the future. One such date is **15th August 1947**, when India finally won her freedom after a long and arduous struggle. The month of August will forever be remembered for its special place in the story of our independence—it is, in itself, a festival of freedom.

From the delicate beginnings of a nascent nation in 1947 to the vibrant and self-assured power we are today, India's journey is a testament to our unwavering resilience, visionary spirit, and the beautiful tapestry of unity within our diversity.

I am happy to share the story of India's economy which was described as Hindu growth rate earlier and it transited into as I put into as Bharat growth rate. For the fiscal year 2024–25, a year that once again showcased the strength, adaptability, and ambition of our nation. India closed the fiscal year with GDP growth of 6.5%, the fastest among all major economies. In a world where growth has slowed and advanced economies have struggled to reach even two per cent, India's performance stands as a beacon of resilience. And it wasn't just steady growth. The final quarter – from January to March 2025 – saw GDP surge to 7.4%, the highest in a year. This growth was driven by robust domestic demand, a revival in rural consumption, and a sharp increase in investment activity. Construction grew by 9.4% over the year, driven by infrastructure and housing, reaching a remarkable 10.8% in the final quarter. Public administration and defense services expanded nearly 9%, reflecting our commitment to service delivery and security. Financial services and real estate remained healthy, growing 7.2%, while agriculture and allied activities posted 4.4% growth, supported by a favorable monsoon and improved productivity. Domestic demand was the heartbeat of our economy. Private consumption increased by 7.2%, demonstrating the confidence of households nationwide. Investment, measured by Gross Fixed Capital Formation, grew by 7.1% for the year, accelerating to 9.4% in the last quarter. On the external front, our exports reached an all-time high of 820.9 billion US dollars, with services leading the charge even amidst a challenging global trade environment. Consequently, with the trade imbalance between the two countries, (INDIA & USA) following the enhancement of tariff to 50%, the Indo–US dispute no more remains bilateral trade fight but it has serious **global consequences**. However, INDIA gets undaunted support from many countries including China, Russia and Brazil. In spite of all this, we should not be pessimistic and hopefully under the leadership of our Hon'ble Prime Minister things may be resolved in India's favour.

Of course, we faced inflationary pressures, particularly in food and fuel, but prudent policy and stable supply lines helped us contain them towards the year's end. This stability allowed the Reserve Bank to maintain a growth-friendly monetary stance. Ladies and gentlemen, these numbers are not just statistics. They represent millions of individual stories: the mason in Surat who found steady work, the software engineer in Hyderabad sending solutions to the world, the farmer in Maharashtra investing in better irrigation – these are the faces behind the figures. The year 2024-25 was not without its challenges. However, what defines India's economy is not the absence of challenges, but our ability to adapt, to innovate, and to keep moving forward. As we look ahead, projections suggest we will grow around 6.4% in the coming year. We recognize that global uncertainties remain, but with strong fundamentals, a vibrant domestic market, and the determination of 1.4 billion people, I believe we can continue to lead the world in growth – and hope.

India is now a respected voice in global forums – from the United Nations to the G20. We are known not only for our economic potential but also for our commitment to peace, democracy, and sustainable development. India's path to success has not been a mere stroke of luck; it is the result of decades of dedication and toil from generations who dared to dream of the freedom that once felt elusive. As we cast our gaze towards the future – setting our sights on transforming into a developed nation by 2047, the centenary of our independence – we carry with us the luminous spirit that ignited our aspirations on that fateful August night, illuminating the way forward with hope and determination.

India entered the demographic dividend opportunity window in 2005-06 and will remain there till 2055-56. CUAP aims to transform the demographic dividend into demographic power. In its pursuit of a comprehensive approach that harnesses the potential of youth, CUAP has taken into account the perspectives and concerns outlined

in Viksit Bharat@2047. To achieve its goal of becoming a true 21st-century higher education institution in every aspect, the University has developed a CUAP Vision-Document ie CUAP@2047 ensuring overall growth of the university. In addition, the University is bringing its Institutional Development Plan (IDP), adhering to the UGC Guidelines. The Institutional Development Plan (IDP) demonstrates our commitment to academic excellence, research innovation, and holistic development. CUAP's Institutional Development Plan is a comprehensive roadmap that aligns with national policies and global standards. By focusing on academic excellence, infrastructure development, capacity building, and internationalization, CUAP aims to become a leading institution of higher learning, contributing to the socio-economic development of the region and the nation. This comprehensive framework integrates NEP-2020, NCrF, capacity building, internationalization, and transparent systems into CUAP's Institutional Development Plan. The implementation of these strategies, along with regular reviews and adjustments, will position CUAP as a leading institution in India and global. This plan serves as a roadmap for the University's future endeavours, focusing on key areas such as governance, infrastructure, academic programs, research and development (R&D) activities, and internationalization. By addressing these areas, we aim to create an environment that fosters learning, innovation, and community engagement. I extend my gratitude to all members of the expert committee and CUAP community for their contributions to this plan. I am confident that with the implementation of this progressive and empirical IDP, the University will have the opportunity to enhance its reputation globally. Let us work together to achieve the objectives outlined in this plan, ensuring that CUAP remains a centre of excellence in higher education.

In the history of CUAP, past year has as eventful as the earlier years, especially since 2020.

One of the most significant achievements was the completion of the **first phase of the permanent campus**, equipped with state-of-the-art smart infrastructure. Remarkably, this phase was completed in a record time of just **20 months by the CPWD**, a feat that stands as a testament to their dedication and efficiency. On this occasion, I sincerely thank the CPWD officials, whose untiring efforts made this megastructure possible.

Even more significantly, the University was able to commence its functioning in the new premises within **15 months**, enabling CUAP to begin the **2024–25 academic session in August 2024** on its own campus. This achievement embodies the inspiring words of our Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi ji: *“Delay is the enemy of development.”* Guided by this vision, the construction and operationalization of the campus in record time reflects our shared commitment to progress, efficiency, and nation-building.

A momentous occasion unfolded as Shri Dharmendra Pradhan ji, the Hon'ble Minister of Education, Government of India, dedicated the campus to the nation of the First Phase of the permanent CUAP campus, in virtual mode, on Tuesday, 29 July 2025 from Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi. This landmark event filled the air with a sense of pride and joy, marking a significant chapter in the University's illustrious journey towards academic excellence. In this extraordinary celebration, CUAP expressed heartfelt gratitude to Hon'ble President of India Srimati Droupadi Murmu ji, Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi ji, Hon'ble Chief Minister of AP Shri Nara Chandrababu Naidu garu, Hon'ble Chancellor, CUAP Dr Shankar Acharya, Hon'ble MPs, Hon'ble MLAs, Hon'ble Members of Local Bodies of AP State and people of AP especially from Anantapur for their support. The invaluable support from the Ministry of Education proved pivotal in transforming this ceremony into a memorable and uplifting experience that will resonate for years to come.

On its seventh anniversary of CUAP, on 5 August 2025, university reached a significant milestone from 6 programs of studies from 6 Indian states to 31 programs of studies from 23 states students' enrollment and another 15 Diploma in emerging technologies from the current academic year. These Diploma courses are introduced keeping in view that preparing a Tech-ready human resources fostering innovation, raising demand for skilled AI professionals, deepening into global engagements. CUAP reached a significant milestone that Ministry of Education sanctioned to establish a prestigious Malaviya Mission Teacher Training Centre (MMTTC) among the 145th Centre across the country. This innovative centre is dedicated to providing comprehensive training for college and university teachers across the country, marking a major advancement in educational excellence. The Malaviya Mission Teacher Training Programme (MMTTP) highlights the critical need for dynamic teacher training initiatives aimed at equipping educators with modern pedagogical strategies and in-depth subject matter expertise. This initiative demonstrates a commitment to enhancing higher education standards by empowering teachers with contemporary teaching methodologies, ensuring their skills align with the aspirations of national development. The programme aims to implement the recommendations of the National Education Policy (NEP), focusing on quality teaching, equity, online education, the utilization of technology, promoting Indian languages, vocational education, and multidisciplinary education.

The Ratan Tata Innovation Hub (RTIH) is being established by Govt. of AP to promote innovation, create an entrepreneurial ecosystem, and mentor startups. Ananthapuramu will host one of the five regional "spoke centres. These spoke centres will expand the reach of the RTIH and facilitate technology and skill enhancement in emerging sectors, with each center being mentored by a multinational company. Moreover, Government of Andhra Pradesh has assigned CUAP as part of the activities

of the Centre, to create new startups, research labs in the area of Health Care, energy, AI, Quantum Computing, Advance Materials, Semiconductors and many more.

CUAP is embarking on an exciting journey of academic enhancement, marked by several transformative reforms and initiatives:

- The minimum passing marks have been elevated to 50%, setting a higher standard of excellence for our students from the current academic year 2025-26 onwards.
- CUAP adopted end-to-end total digital examination system
- established Next-Gen Campus Network Data Centre contains state of art digital infrastructures
- Received prestigious ANRF research funding for the research on AI, Cyber Security, and health by DST, similarly from NITI Aayog, ICSSR for social science and humanities
- Established skill center catering to create an entrepreneurship and livelihood for the local people and our students
- To celebrate and motivate academic brilliance, a fee waiver will be awarded to the top meritorious student achieving outstanding results in the semester-end examinations for each semester across all programmes.
- Institution of Gold Medal by Donors for toppers of university students in various fields awarded during the Convocation those who passed out 2024-25 and onwards. The first gold medal already instituted in the name of late Smt. Gangamma Kori to any girl student irrespective of caste, creed, color, religion or any social category or any state in India who gets highest marks in the UG programme and shall be awarded the medal every year during the convocation of the university. There are many more such gold medals are expected from other donors too.

- We are proud to introduce an innovative dual degree programme, allowing students acquire an additional degree of their choice as per UGC guidelines to broaden their horizons and deepen their expertise across multiple disciplines.
- In addition, the University envisions the establishment of two pioneering centres of study: one dedicated to exploring the profound richness of the Indian Knowledge System, and another focused on the cutting-edge field of Quantum Computing. These centres are designed to inspire research and inquiry at the intersection of tradition and modernity, equipping students with the tools to shape the future. The inception of the Quantum Computing Centre aligns with the vision of Government of Andhra Pradesh to cultivate a thriving Quantum Valley, reminiscent of the renowned Silicon Valley in the United States. This ambitious initiative aims to transform the region into a hub of innovation and technological advancement, fostering groundbreaking developments in the field of quantum computing.

I am pleased to see the enthusiastic contributions of the students, faculty, and staff at CUAP towards the continued growth of our beloved university. I extend my heartfelt best wishes to each of them.

On this remarkable day, let us honour the soldiers who embody bravery, dedication, and unwavering patriotism. We must always remember that they selflessly sacrifice their present for our future, standing as the enduring guardians of our freedom. Their unwavering commitment is the foundation of our pride and the source of our smiles, a testament to their relentless spirit and the noble sacrifices they make for our well-being.

My dear fellow countrymen,

Let us rededicate ourselves to the service of our beloved motherland and strive to fulfil the dream of Swami Vivekananda for a glorious India, one that is more glorious than she has ever been.

Thank you, Jai Hind!