

PRESS RELEASE

President of India Shri Pranab Mukherjee dedicates Shiv Nadar University to the Nation

- Hon'ble President hails the university as an institution of national significance
- Lays the foundation stone of the faculty residential complex

January 18, 2016, Greater Noida: The Hon'ble President of India, Shri Pranab Mukherjee visited the Shiv Nadar University, Greater Noida today and dedicated the University to the nation, calling it 'an institute of national significance.' He also laid the foundation stone of the university residential complex on the occasion.

Honorable Governor of Uttar Pradesh Shri Ram Naik was the Chief Guest of the occasion accompanied by Shri Yasar Shah, Hon'ble Transport Minister of Uttar Pradesh who graced the occasion as a distinguished guest.

Speaking on the occasion, the **Hon'ble President, Shri Pranab Mukherjee** said, "*As a country with one of the world's youngest population, India's success lies in its ability to leverage its demographic dividend. Education plays a very significant role in not only empowering the youth but also in nation-building. The most prestigious and reputed universities globally have been built on the fundamental pillars of excellence – meritocracy, flexibility to explore, freedom to challenge oneself and grow from failure, and most importantly, innovation and research. In a relatively short span of time, the Shiv Nadar University has emerged as one of India's leading private universities. I believe the Shiv Nadar University will emerge as a landmark institution, critical to nation-building in the 21st century and beyond and in time, will also take its rightful place among the pantheon of great universities of the world. It is my honour to dedicate the Shiv Nadar University to the nation.*"

Inaugurating the faculty residential complex the Hon'ble President further added, "*The residential character of the University for both faculty and students will help nurture a strong environment for exploration, collaboration and continuous dialogue.*"

During the event, **Shri Ram Naik, the Hon'ble Governor of Uttar Pradesh** observed that "*Indian universities do not have any significant global presence. The main reason for this could be the lack of interest in innovative thinking and research. I am happy to know that research is one of the most important components of the eco-system of Shiv Nadar University.*

www.snu.eduShiv Nadar, Founder & Chairman, HCL and Shiv Nadar Foundation said, "*I am extremely grateful to have the honorable President of India Shri Pranab Mukherjee with us here at Shiv Nadar University today. The Shiv Nadar University has come a long way, from a small building on a 286-acre land four years ago we have now grown into a vibrant residential campus with over 2000 students, 184 faculty members and nearly 2 million sq feet of built-up space. I echo the hon'ble President's views that research-led education is fundamental to nation-building. In developing countries the research universities have crucial roles to play in creating differentiated and effective academic systems, and in making it possible for their countries to join the global knowledge society.*

"We are committed to our mission of nation-building and empowering the youth. With our emphasis on multi-disciplinary learning, a student-centric approach and a strong focus on research, we are constantly working to play a key role in raising the benchmarks of Indian higher education," Mr. Nadar further added.

About Shiv Nadar University

Shiv Nadar University is a comprehensive, multidisciplinary, research university offering a full range of academic programs at the undergraduate, postgraduate and doctoral level. SNU's integrated multi-disciplinary undergraduate curriculum provides students a strong foundation in the humanities and social sciences, natural sciences, technology and engineering studies, arts and communication and management, while enabling them to gain mastery of a subject of their choosing. Taught by world-class faculty, undergraduate education at SNU is designed to develop students with the breadth of vision, knowledge, skills and attitudes required to succeed in the careers of the 21st century. SNU is an institution set up and funded by the Shiv Nadar Foundation.

About Shiv Nadar Foundation

The Shiv Nadar Foundation (www.ShivNadarFoundation.org) has been established by Shiv Nadar, Founder, HCL - a \$7 billion leading technology and healthcare enterprise. The Foundation's mission is to contribute to the process of national development and social transformation by establishing institutions and undertaking new initiatives in the fields of education and culture. The Foundation is committed to the creation of a more equitable, merit based society by empowering individuals to bridge the socio-economic divide through philanthropy based transformational education.

The Foundation set up the SSN Institutions (www.SSN.edu.in) in 1996, comprising the SSN College of Engineering (already a highly ranked private engineering college in India), in Chennai, Tamil Nadu. The Foundation has also set up VidyaGyan, a residential leadership academy for meritorious rural children, at Bulandshar and Sitapur in Uttar Pradesh. In addition, the Foundation runs the Shiv Nadar University (www.snu.edu.in), an international multi-disciplinary university with strong research orientation located in Greater Noida in India's National Capital Region and the Shiv Nadar School (www.shivnadarschool.edu.in), a network of progressive urban schools across India aimed to provide children with education that creates lifelong learners. The Foundation has also set up the Kiran Nadar Museum of Art (www.knma.in), India's largest private philanthropic museum in modern and contemporary art with the vision to take art to the common public.

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