

**Message of the Vice-Chancellor dt. 1<sup>st</sup> January 2017:**

Dear colleagues (Officers, Teachers and Non-teaching employees of the University),



Another year passed by. On this occasion, on the 1<sup>st</sup> day of the New Year, I wish happiness and prosperity to all of you and your family members. Because of your effort and commitment our University progressed in all fronts. As the Head of the family of the University I thank you and wish that the work culture will continue to take our Institution to further heights.

A VC in the state Universities of Odisha officiates for 3 years. You are all aware that I have completed more than 2 and half years and would leave on 24<sup>th</sup> May 2017. There is no confusion about it as in the incubation board in my office the last date has been mentioned. Many a persons visiting the University ask me why this deviation. My answer is clear. If I wish to stick to the Chair for an extension, people would try to allure for a favor giving impression that they are trying for extension of my tenure, and even it is not so, the message will go that I am trying for the same, and the VC will face opposition from several quarters who would create issues from nothing, especially by them whose vested interests were not fulfilled during my tenure.

Looking back from the date I joined as VC of F.M. University I recollect what a difficult period it was for the first four quarters. Everyone was looking at me with disbelief on my functioning with apprehension that the University administration will work as it was even though I was open from the day one, clearly giving the message what I want from my employees and what to give for strengthening academic atmosphere of the University. I was disturbed first knowing the way files have been maintained, records kept and even confidentiality of service matters of individuals were in everyone's hand. Too much of interference from college teachers and public on matters not relevant to them as most were neither the alumni, nor parents or stakeholders in academics of the University, and they were playing with the credibility of the University for the reason best known to them. I got threatening calls, challenges in my office, Vigilance team came basing on a news paper report about the University before my joining, no support from district administration or the peoples representatives when I was facing resistance from all quarters within first three months of my tenure. Being a teacher and a scientist, well versed how to protect interest of students and the quality of academics, both teaching and Research for which a University is meant for, I was Firm in my conviction and dedicated full for the University, leaving my residence in the old campus in the city and staying in a staff quarter in the new campus in a rural area in Nuapadhi along with students and staff. I did not keep silent to any who gave

petitions against me and the University every now and then, and answered to all with facts and figures whenever received. The mess created by the guides and research scholars who have registered for Ph.D. in this University which numbered more than 650 then, though the teacher number in the P.G. Departments were hardly 40, and the regulations were not as per UGC guidelines. The students as well as Research scholars were not under the jurisdiction of the University, yet had place of research certificate without working in those institutions, registered and majority of those scholars claiming as Research scholars of FMU were of this category. As University cannot violate the regulation in force at the time of registration of any, my first step was to change the Ph.D. Regulation and also for other higher post PG degrees, and it was implemented in 2015. Now the issue is almost solved and presently those registered in the University is strictly as per the guidelines of UGC.

The second problem of the University was that it had not organised Convocation since 2011, and degrees were pending though notifications issued and provisional certificates given. Finally the first Convocation during my tenure was fixed on 11<sup>th</sup> May 2015, on the National Technology day. We did not have an auditorium for at least 500 sitting capacity, and making convocation in open pandal during the summer heat of 45 degree C bearing robes was not possible. Hence for the interest of students to award all pending degrees since 2011 and earlier, the convocation was organised in a new conference hall of NOOCI in Balaosre, close to the old campus. This lead to public agitation for not to hold the convocation out side the campus. I was scolded in public, posters displayed in Fakir Mohan Golei against me, threatened but for the interest of students to disburse the pending degrees was my priority. Hence I was Firm as before, and happy that the University performed its duty to award certificates. This is the most saddest part of my VC tenure at Balasore, and by this time one year already passed. When I was not understood properly, and a VC is not respected in a place, I decided to keep away, concentrate to University matters only. Even with all these odds, the following work have been accomplished till date.

- 1.Fakir Mohan University song was introduced to be recited in the beginning of all official functions of the University,
- 2.A non-credit course on Fakir Mohan studies included in the syllabus for all students in the P.G. level of this University,
- 3.ICT facilities like campus with wi-fi connectivity, Proquest and Infiblinet for online browsing of journals and e-books in the Central Library was established,.
- 4.Online student enrollment, registration, form fill-up executed and steps are taken for online evaluation from the current year,
- 5.CBCS course implemented in all the affiliated colleges of the University as per UGC-MHRD pattern,

6. Annual accounts of the University prepared since 2015.
7. Students Janata health insurance scheme implemented,
8. Several reforms have been taken on financial aspects like:
  - a. Provision of travel grant to faculty for participation in International/National conferences/workshops.
  - b. Digitization of records/E-office, preparation of balance sheet, paperless and cash less transactions/ payments, provision of LTC for employees implemented.
  - c. Provisions made for Corpus Fund of the university u/s 27 of the Act.
  - d. Tally ERP-9 implemented with salary slips, SMS service after adjustment of advance, Income tax return reminders, monthly GPF balance status and e-payments.
  - e. Advance to the tune of 4.17 crores pending have been adjusted.
  - f. All family pension/pension cases have been addressed with priority.
  - g. All employees joined up to Oct. 2016 have been allotted PRAN under the new NPS scheme.
  - h. Most of the vacant teaching and non-teaching have been filled-up, and also eligible teachers have been promoted under Career Advancement which was pending since long. The remaining sanctioned teaching posts of the University have been advertised to fill-up all the vacancies.
  - i. A guest house, Health care Centre, P.G. Central office, one each of Ladies and Gents hostel added to the physical infrastructure in the new campus.
  - j. The HRD center, VC's residence, Ladies hostel, Bank, Post office and Canteen complex and Academic building for the Department of Language and Literature are under construction by CPWD and will be added by mid 2017.
  - k. Further all the pending degrees up to 31<sup>st</sup> December 2016 will be disbursed after the next convocation scheduled in January 2017.
  - l. The long cherished dream of the region was fulfilled with the opening of the Department of Language and Literature with P.G. courses in Odia, Urdu and English as regular mode. The Department was inaugurated on 14<sup>th</sup> June 2016, Fakir Mohan's anniversary day.
  - m. NCTE team visited the University in April 2016 and approved opening of Integrated M.Ed. course with 50 seats and 100 B.Ed seats.
  - n. NAAC peer Team visited our University for by a seven member committee from 19<sup>th</sup> July to 23<sup>rd</sup> July 2016 for the first time since its inception in 1999 and our University was accredited with B+ status.

The achievements of the young University, now in its youth is now visible, and those who have misgivings on me and still sending repeated petitions to the Governor of Odisha, CM, HE Minister, HE Secretary, UGC, PM, HRD Minister, President of India, Chairman NAAC, Members of NAAC peer review team members and many others that I am a

dishonest person, taking bribe in all appointments, VC do not know how to calculate API score, standard of education of this University is poor, Teachers lack quality for teaching and Research etc., I suggest them not to equate the functioning of a University to Government offices, and to open their eyes, educate themselves what a University is, participate and support in the academic activities so that the long cherished dream of Balasore and Bhadrak region will be fulfilled and the youth will be empowered.

For the teachers of the University I had asked them the following on the new year 2016 to work and achieve:

1. To publish at least 2 papers in referred journals in a year.
2. To participate in at least two conferences of national standard per year.
3. To organise at least one National seminar per Department per year and one International at least once in three years and publish the proceedings.
4. To execute at least one external funded project per person.
5. To develop collaboration with a faculty of other University.
6. Minimum of one student working full time under each teacher in the Department, and ascertain the part-time researchers to attend 100 working days in 3 years.
7. Each teacher to take at least one additional responsibility in the administration.

One year passed. Now you look back what from the above you have achieved, and any other additional distinctions so that you can shape your future as well as its principal stake holders, the students. Teachers and Students are two important pillar of an Educational Institution. They have to play the most vital role to improve quality in teaching and Research in a University. This is the most important aspect they must remember.

On this day I urge upon to all the employees of the University to work hand-in-hand and contribute the best whatever assigned and the job wants from each of you for overall development of the University.

**Vice-Chancellor**