

LEARNING, LEADERSHIP, LEGACY

JIO INSTITUTE'S INAUGURAL CONVOCATION CEREMONY

Jio Institute marked a significant milestone with its inaugural convocation ceremony for the graduating PGP batches of 2022-23, 2023-24 and 2024-25. Presided over by the Vice-Chancellor and graced by the presence of the most eminent Ms. Arundhati Bhattacharya, CEO & Chairperson of Salesforce South Asia as the Chief Guest, the remarkable evening saw inspirational addresses, followed by a spirited medals & certificate distribution ceremony.

25th March 2025 was a landmark day in the nascent yet remarkable journey of Jio Institute, as graduating students from our three founding batches from across the country and abroad, converged onto the campus to be conferred with their PGP certificates.

The ceremonial evening started with an Academic Procession led by Dr. Palak Sheth, Project Director with the Chief Guest for the evening Ms. Arundhati Bhattacharya, CEO & Chairperson of Salesforce South Asia and Ex-Chairperson of State Bank of India (SBI), India's largest bank & financial services company; Dr. Dipak C. Jain, Vice-Chancellor; Dr. Shailesh Kumar, Dean; Mr. Jalaj Dani, Trustee of the Governing Council and Co-Promoter of Asian Paints and Mr. Ashwin Khasgiwala, Chief of Business Operations at Reliance Retail. The procession was joined by our Institute's leadership and faculty members.

The event was attended by families of the graduating students, faculty, industry partners, distinguished guests and leaders from the Reliance fraternity and the Institute staff.

Dr. Palak Sheth, in his welcome address, thanked all the dignitaries on the dais and attendees of the inaugural convocation ceremony for their continued patronage to the Institute. He welcomed the graduating students: "Dear graduates, you are the pioneers of this vision - the first wave of graduates who will carry forward the ethos of excellence, innovation & purpose. I welcome you to today's occasion which is a celebration of your hard work, resilience, and determination.

This day marks the culmination of your academic journey and the beginning of an exciting chapter ahead. Each one of you has embraced challenges, navigated uncertainties, and grown in ways that will continue to shape your future. Whether you are stepping into the workforce, launching new ventures, or advancing in your careers, remember - this milestone is only the beginning of all that you will accomplish."



Graduates, as you step forward as proud alumni of Jio Institute, you carry with you a legacy of bold thinking and purposeful action. You ambassadors of an institution that believes in pushing boundaries, solving challenges, alobal and driving progress. Your journeys will shape how the world perceives Jio Institute, and accomplishments will inspire your generations to come.

- DR. PALAK SHETH





Dr. Raghunath A. Mashelkar, Chancellor, talked about the Institute's vision and journey so far, saying: "Jio Institute was conceived as sanctuary а disciplines converge, where innovation breathes, where research illuminates, and where entrepreneurial spirit finds its wings. From those early conversations to grand celebration, we've seen something extraordinary take root: not just an institution, but a movement."

He laid out the 5 Mashelkar Mantras for success, which guided him on his own journey.

MASHELKAR #1

Keep your aspirations high. They are your possibilities.

MASHELKAR #2

You can do anything, but not everything. So focus.

MASHELKAR #3

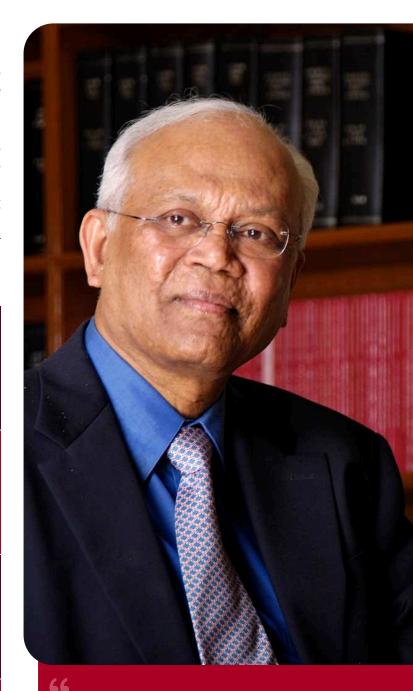
Purpose, perseverance, and passion matter.

MASHELKAR #4

If the doors that you keep on knocking on don't open, create your own doors.

MASHELKAR #5

There is no limit to human endurance. No limit to human achievement. Except the limits that you put on yourself.



Stay curious, stay restless, stay compassionate. Let purpose be your compass and lead with integrity—be fearless, audacious, and unstoppable. So go out there. Be fearless. Be audacious. Be unstoppable. The world is not just waiting for change—it is waiting for YOU to create it. The future belongs to you.

- DR. RAGHUNATH MASHELKAR





Dr. Dipak Jain thanked the graduating students' families & friends for their continued support and investment into their children's education. While reflecting on the students' achievements, he remarked:



You can either be a candle, or the mirror that reflects the candle's light. As teachers, we are the candles that are committed give the students the best education, and we look forward to the remarkable contributions of our students as the mirrors of this institute

- DR. DIPAK JAIN

He went on to list down three things that helped him in his own stellar journey, he said:

#1

When people ask you to do something, never ask the question, what's in it for me. Feel privileged that somebody has faith in your competencies to give this responsibility to you.

#2

The second: competencies can be outsourced, trust cannot be outsourced. Earn the respect and trust of the people that you work for, and work with.

#3

Third: Be yourself. If a person like me can achieve what it is, the best of this world is ahead of us







We aspire to build an institution that fosters excellence in education, research, innovation, and entrepreneurship—nurturing critical thinkers, bold innovators, and compassionate leaders. By attracting top talent globally and promoting collaboration, we strive to become a national pride and a hub for solving society's and industry's most pressing challenges

- DR. SHAILESH KUMAR

The Dean of Jio Institute, **Dr. Shailesh Kumar** highlighted the achievements of the institute.

We have achieved remarkable academic growth:

- In the past three years we have graduated 319 students across the three programmes: 143 in AI&DS, 142 Management, and 34 in Sports Management. These students have come from 26 states of India and four countries South Africa, Nepal, Bhutan and Ghana.
- Applications for admission to Jio Institute have increased from 455 in our first year to 1,800 today.

These students have been supported by world class faculty and Industry leaders:

- Our faculty pool comprises of over 100 thought leaders, with affiliations international universities such as Northwestern University, University of Illinois, University of Houston, University, Georgia University, Institute for AI and from global corporations such as Microsoft, Google, Fractal, Salesforce, Nissan, PwC, Deloitte and more
- We have delivered more than 90 courses per year across all three programs and more than 150 industry experts have engaged with our students in this period.
- Our global immersion programme has taken our students to universities such as the Nanyang Technological University, Singapore and Hamad Bin Khalifa University, Qatar for an enriching academic, startup, industrial, and cultural experience.

Jio Institute faculty have achieved significant milestones in research

- Our faculty have published more than 30 research papers in top-tier journals including the prestigious Nature and IEEE Transactions, and presented at top tier national and international conferences
- Our faculty have laid strong foundations in establishing cutting-edge research labs in Artificial Intelligence, Computer Vision Medical Imaging, Semiconductor Materials, Cancer Metabolism, and Microbiota Therapeutics.

Our students have received remarkable placements

- Over 300 organizations have partnered with Jio Institute. With the tireless efforts of our placement team, we have achieved over 85% placement rate across the last three years. We aim to achieve a 100% placement rate in the coming years.
- This year alone, our students have interned with over 50 companies, who offered projects in the Retail & E-Commerce, Media & Entertainment, Consulting, Sports and other industries.







Whatever job is given to you, learn to excel at it, learn to think out of the box, and be the person who can be relied upon to meaningfully solution for challenges", she continues: "if you can do this, you will always find your place in every professional space

- MS. ARUNDHATI BHATTACHARYA

Ms. Arundhati Bhattacharya, Chief Guest for the evening, in her convocation address remarked at the grand vision of Jio Institute.

She also used the story of a coach who took over the training of a young girl who wanted to participate in the 100-meter race.

After training for three to four months, the girl participated in and lost the race. Dejected, she expressed her disappointment to the coach, who, to her surprise, was happy to see that she had made her career best run.

Ms. Bhattacharya, drawing from the example, said: "And that's exactly what you all need to do; every single day that you wake up, be a better version of yourself.

It doesn't matter if it is by 0.01 seconds, but if you continue to improve on a regular basis, you can then actually realize your full potential."







Your ability to adapt, your hunger to learn, and your commitment to excellence, remains timeless

- MR. JALAJ DANI

Mr. Jalaj Dani also addressed the gathering. Drawing from his vast experience in the corporate world, he said: "As someone from the industry, I can tell you that the world beyond these walls is evolving rapidly.

The way we work, innovate, and solve problems is constantly changing. But even as this transformation is happening, some things remain timeless: your ability to adapt, your hunger to learn, and your commitment to excellence."

Talking about the rapid pace with which the world is evolving, he egged on the graduates, saying:

Mr. Dani highlighted the importance of the alignment of the Institute's curricula with real-world industry needs. "This alignment saying: crucial because it means that you, as graduates, are entering the workforce equipped with the right skills, knowledge, and mindset to make an immediate impact."

He went on to praise the industry-academia ecosystem that Jio Institute has forged, thanking the industry partners who have played a critical role in offering industry-ready insights and collaborating with the students on mentorships, projects, internships and placement opportunities.







For us at Reliance Retail, the courses are very much aligned to our business. Especially the data sciences, and the AI part of it. It is absolutely a great thing that Jio Institute is leading the way in creating knowledge for the future and for the entire industry

MR. ASHWIN KHASGIWALA

Mr. Ashwin Khasgiwala, talked about the Institute's rapid transformation, "When I visited this land long time ago, it was barren.

Talking about the academic rigor and the quality of the graduating students, he mentioned his desire to recruit each and everyone of these students and make them an integral part of the organization.

He went on to praise the graduating students of the Class of 2022-23 and 2023-24, who have been working with the organization stating their excellent work ethic, and their contributions to the growth of the largest omnichannel retail organization in the country

As a final point, he expressed his desire to continue collaborating with the Institute and its students in multiple capacities, with the vision of growing the business further, and taking it to new heights.

When I first visited the campus, I was shocked to see the kind of infrastructure and facilities that have come up" Commenting on the alignment of the programmes' curriculum to industry, he said



This was followed by the medals & certificates distribution ceremony, where distinguished graduates were rewarded with the 'Vice-Chancellor' and 'Dean's List' awards by the Chief Guest. The ceremony included awards for the 'Best Faculty' and the 'Best Teaching Assistants' of the year for the respective graduating cohort.

As the Vice-Chancellor declared the convocation concluded, the Academic Procession retreated with the rhythmic beating of the drums. The 800-plus strong crowd stood in respect to pay their respects, as the National Anthem echoed in the vast academic lawn.

With a collective sense of achievement, the graduating students flung their hats into their air, marking the fruition of the vision of Chairperson Mrs. Nita Ambani and Chairman Mr. Mukesh Ambani, who envisioned creating a world-class institution that would combine academic rigor with Indian values.

