

# NEP aims for well-rounded citizens: Union min Pradhan

## NITK Lauded For Commitment Towards Sustainable Devt

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

**Mangaluru:** The National Education Policy-2020, aims to produce well-rounded citizens of the world, by assimilation of ancient and modern ways, said Dharmendra Pradhan, minister of education, and skill development and entrepreneurship.

Pradhan was addressing the 20<sup>th</sup> annual convocation of the National Institute of Technology Karnataka (NITK) Surathkal on Saturday. On NEP-2020, Pradhan mentioned Swami Vivekananda and his guiding philosophy behind it.

He lauded NITK Surathkal, for their commitment to sustainable development, and urged the institution to establish a full-fledged sustainable energy department, to position the technology institute as a leading lighthouse in the energy transition. "I visited a plant where methane is produced from food waste. It is also planned to generate hydrogen through steam bio-



Pics: Ravi Posavanike

**YOUNG ACHIEVER:** Union minister of education Dharmendra Pradhan hands over certificate to Sudeepthi Nalla, one of the gold medal winners, at the 20th annual convocation of NITK Surathkal on Saturday

gas reforming. The institution has also rolled out several electric bikes for campus use, and utilised solar power. The same should continue. The institution should not just create job seekers but also job creators," said Pradhan.

He also spoke about the

key areas like artificial intelligence, machine learning, data analytics, electronics, genome editing and 3D printing, that are the way forward for industry 4.0. He said that India will play a key role in the future development of humanity, and will restore its glory as a Vishwa Guru. "Our

aim is to become a developed country, when India celebrates 100 years of Independence in 2047," he said. On the occasion, 1,787 candidates graduated, which included 126 PhDs, 817 postgraduates, and 844 BTech students.

Prasad Krishna, director (additional charge), NITK Surathkal, said that the Central Research Facility is set up with a Rs 80 crore loan from the Higher Education Finance Agency (HEFA). The institution is the first among the NITs, to use the finances of HEFA, towards such a facility. The new facility houses over 75 high-end research-grade instruments, which are enabling industrial and academic research collaborations, in the fields of space technology, automobiles, additive manufacturing, water purification, nano-technology, medicine, healthcare, and others. There is a dedicated website that shows all facilities, and has an online booking facility for users from across India and abroad.

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'India's future lies in the ha

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"INDIA needs more entrepreneurs and innovators to achieve its future ambitions," said Dharmendra Pradhan, Union Minister for Education, Skill and Entrepreneurship.

Delivering the 20th convocation address at the National Institute of