

RAJ BHAVAN, TAMIL NADU - PRESS RELEASE

**Governor-Chancellor's drive for timely Convocations, Research
and Academic Excellence across the State Universities of**

Tamil Nadu

The Hon'ble Governor-Chancellor has been steadfast in his commitment to improve the quality and standards of Higher Education in our State.

Hon'ble Governor-Chancellor has been insisting that all convocations should be held on time. Between 1.4.2023 to 31.7.2024, convocations have been conducted for 18 out of 20 State Universities. In instances where the Vice Chancellor position is vacant, the Convenor of the Vice-Chancellor Convenor Committee has been formally advised to initiate the process for conduct of convocation. Within the next two months (by 31st October, 2024), it has been proposed to conduct convocations for ten Universities, thereby ensuring that students receive their degree certificates promptly and without delay.

Hon'ble Governor-Chancellor has directed Vice-Chancellors to provide guidance, motivation, and mentorship to research scholars and postgraduate students for taking up NET/JRF Fellowships. This initiative aims to elevate the quality of research work and support scholars through enhanced stipends and ensuring that they also get wide opportunities to take up a career in teaching in reputed colleges and universities.

Vice-Chancellors have been instructed to support researchers in increasing the filing of patent applications, particularly in STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) fields. They have also been asked to collaborate with Central and Private universities. Consequently, the number of patents obtained by State Universities has risen from 206 in 2021-22 to 386 in 2023-24.

Hon'ble Governor-Chancellor has been instrumental in bringing together institutions and universities ranked in the top 20 of the National Institutional Ranking Framework (NIRF) in our State and offer a platform for these leading institutions to share their successful strategies and insights with all State Universities.

The notable increase in patents awarded, NET/JRF fellowships and the improved NIRF rankings for several State Universities underscore the significant impact of these efforts, reflecting a commitment to enhanced research and academic excellence.

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