

Graduation Speech by: Mrs. Shubhechchha Sharma, NRM/SERD, Representative of all Outstanding Master's graduating students in SERD and SOM, Morning Session, 121<sup>st</sup> AIT Graduation Ceremony, 23 May 2014

Excellencies and Honored guests, Mr. President, Faculties, Families and Fellow Graduating Students: I wish you all a very good morning!

First and foremost, I would like to congratulate all the fellow graduates for their outstanding achievements and express my sincere gratitude for giving me an opportunity to speak on behalf of my batch.

I am sure that all the graduates today be of the same mind when I say that the journey towards graduation has not been an easy one. Prior to being admitted at AIT, most of us weren't confident on our capability of pursuing a master's degree whilst dealing with the hassle and difficulties of everyday life. Most of us were struggling each day for getting adjusted to a diverse mass of cultures, societies and religions when we came to study in AIT. We looked different, spoke differently and thought diversely. Yet, we were successful in demonstrating the motto of "one AIT, our AIT', connected through a bond of friendship and humanity.

During life at AIT, exams have traumatized us and assignments have been submitted at the 11<sup>th</sup> hour. Every bit of music were memorized, chords were evaluated, and chapters were summarized. Nevertheless, these are not dexterity and skills that we are grateful for. AIT has always challenged us to set our benchmarks much higher and to gaze for solutions rather than focus on a problem; and yet be resilient and be responsible for our education.

From this dais, we thank our faculties and staffs for guiding and motivating us to this very day. Their passion for teaching and education was prominent each day as they back-stopped and nurtured us to be the best. Parents, families and friends here this morning, along with others who could not be here, we would not have been here without you.

To our fellow graduates, this ceremony symbolizes a historic time in our lives. Today we rejoice the accomplishment and attainment of our overall goal. It is imperative to acknowledge and recognize a fresh start and the very next chapter that we are stepping on.

As quoted from the movie Spiderman, "with great power comes great responsibility". With the certificates that we received today, we take on responsibilities too. Our opinions will be looked through, our knowledge will be referred and our actions will be taken for guidance. Most importantly, our expertise will be trusted.

As, Gautam Buddha once said, "Thousands of candles can be lighted from a single candle, and the life of the candle will not be shortened; Happiness never decreases by being shared." So, let's enjoy life, give joy and be at peace. Congratulations again to all graduates! This is our day!