



Message from the Chairperson, University Grants Commission

It is my pleasure to write a few words on the occasion of the first annual research symposium of the National Centre for Advanced Studies in Humanities and the Social Sciences (NCAS).

Research is the foundation of all academic activities, and is the responsibility of academics to conduct research and generate new knowledge. Therefore, I believe it is important for administrative authorities such as the University Grants Commission, to facilitate research efforts with a view in creating outstanding academics who are on par with their peers from other parts of the globe. I am happy that the UGC collaborates with the NCAS by facilitating the efficient release of funds to help researchers complete their studies on time. The UGC has been partnering the NCAS in furthering the standards of higher education in this country for a long time, and it is satisfying indeed to see the fruits of this effort in the form of so many research presentations.

After three decades the country has regained peace & harmony and the universities in north and east are developing rapidly. It is also the responsibility of academics to maintain peace & harmony and directly contributes to the national development.

I am happy to learn that there had been very many abstracts submitted by academics. It is my sincere wish that the conference would extend to two or possibly three days, in future, so that the researchers would be given the opportunity to present their findings, to a panel that comprises not only local, but also international subject experts.

I take this opportunity to extend my best wishes to the Director NCAS, Dr. R. M. K. Ratnayake on this auspicious occasion, and wish that all of you participating in the sessions today will be challenged, informed and provided with new and innovative insights.

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