



# 36<sup>th</sup> Convocation

Monday, 17<sup>th</sup> August 2015

**Tamil Nadu Agricultural University**  
Coimbatore

**CITATION**



**Dr. K. Ramasamy**  
Vice Chancellor

**TAMIL NADU AGRICULTURAL UNIVERSITY**  
**DEGREE OF DOCTOR OF SCIENCE**  
**(*Honoris Causa*)**

**Conferred on Sri. Ashok Bakthavathsalam**

**CITATION**

His Excellency the Governor and Chancellor,

I deem it a privilege to present Sri. Ashok Bakthavathsalam, Founder and Director of CHIL-SEZ, Founder and Managing Director, KGDS Renewable Energy Pvt. Ltd., Managing Director, KGISL and Founder and Promoter of KGISL Educational Trust, for the award of the Doctor of Science (*Honoris Causa*).

A native of Coimbatore, with a B.E. from PSG Tech. and an M.S. from Syracuse University, USA, Sri. Ashok Bakthavathsalam is the proud Founder and Director of Tamil Nadu's largest IT Specific Special Economic Zone, Coimbatore HiTech Infrastructure Limited (CHIL), a premier destination in the IT map of India that has attracted enormous investment with huge employment opportunities. Sri. Ashok has single-handedly enabled the holistic and accelerated development in the Keeranatham and Saravanampatti Panchayats through Public Private

Partnership providing livelihood opportunities and urban amenities to improve the quality of life in rural areas with focus on water supply, sanitation, physical infrastructure as well as knowledge connectivity.

As the Founder and Managing Director of KGDS Renewable Energy (P) Limited, Sri. Ashok has spearheaded research and development of Concentrated Solar Thermal Power (CSP) generation, Biomass processing and Thermal Desalination technology. Aptly acknowledged by the MIT, USA, as one of the top technology innovations, and emphasized by the former President of India, Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam, this Solar Desalination Project has proven a massive impact in rural villages in emerging market countries to provide power and water, especially from renewable energy. Sri. Ashok has literally pioneered the growth of the IT and BPO services in Coimbatore since 1996 through his KG Information Systems Pvt. Ltd., and has established the largest investor relations services division in India. In addition, his KGISL Educational Trust renders a laudable academic service to the society, which also caters to 12,000 Japanese schools. A member of the Task Force on IT of the State as well as the Central Governments and as a Convenor of the CII Tamil Nadu Panel, Sri. Ashok has been honoured with various awards including the Best ICT Entrepreneur Award for his services.

The Tamil Nadu Agricultural University is immensely pleased to place on record the outstanding achievements of Sri. Ashok Bakthavathsalam and takes great pride in honouring him, in recognition of his contribution to the IT industry and the society at large.

On the recommendation of the Academic Council, Board of Management of this University and with the approval of the Chancellor, I consider it an honour to recommend Sri. Ashok Bakthavathsalam for the award of the Doctor of Science (*Honoris Causa*), to which, I pray he may be admitted.



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