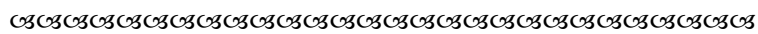


**Opening Address**  
**Royal Golden Jubilee Ph.D. Congress XIII**  
**by**  
**H.E. Dr. Nalinee Taveesin**  
**Minister Attached to the Prime Minister's Office**  
**Friday 6 April 2012 at 9.30 a.m.**  
**Jomtien Palm Beach Resort, Pattaya City**



- Your Excellency the Ambassador of the Kingdom of the Netherlands in Thailand,
- Members of the Boards of the Thailand Research Fund and the Royal Golden Jubilee Ph.D. Program,
- President of the Thailand Research Fund,
- Director of the Royal Golden Jubilee Ph.D. Program, University Administrators, Distinguished Guests,
- Advisors, International co-advisors and Students of the Royal Golden Jubilee Ph.D. Program,
- Representatives of the Mass Media,
- Ladies and Gentlemen,

Good Morning.

- I am honored to be here amongst you as we gather for the Opening Ceremony of the Royal Golden Jubilee Ph.D. Congress XIII, which is organized jointly with MAG Congress VI.

- As the Minister responsible for the Thailand Research Fund, I am very interested in the efforts and the successes of the TRF and the Royal Golden Jubilee Ph.D. Program.

- Since its inception in 1996, the Program has helped to link doctoral studies with research which is similar to how many advanced countries award research assistantships to doctoral students to conduct specifically relevant research for their dissertations.

- As such, it was important that the Program is able to recognize from the outset, the importance of quality research work, that it is able to discern, and focus on the types and subjects of research that would have the most relevance on the development of Thailand,

- and that it is able to create a research culture that attracts, and develops highly qualified researchers, in order to build a sustainable research foundation.

- Fourteen years have gone by, and I am sure you will all be impressed, as I was impressed, when I learnt that the Program has been an enabler for more than 3,500 doctoral students working with 1,500 Thai advisors and 2,200 international co-advisors.

- It has helped to foster over 1,800 graduates, who have generated more than 4,300 international publications, as well as 64 patents including international patents.

- These figures are certainly a good indication of research strength in the various universities as they contribute towards the research output of Thailand, and I do hope that the Master Research Grant Program as planned by the Thailand Research Fund will prove to be as fruitful and as valuable.

- I hope that all the students here will enjoy this Congress, and I am sure that the learning will add more strings to your bow, as you work towards becoming professional researchers and academics.

- I am also sure that the rest of the participants including student advisors as well as experts and university administrators will also enjoy and benefit from their interactions during these meetings.

- On behalf of the Royal Thai Government, I would like to thank the organizers and the contributors who have made this Congress possible - the many organizations, the universities, institutions and individuals who have all played their part.

- In particular, I would like to thank the French Embassy and the Netherlands Education Support Office, as well as the international co-advisors, whose representatives are here today.

- Thank you for your good co-operation and kind guidance as you work with our researchers and students. As such, I am certain that deliberations on the International Research Network which is an initiative of the Program, will lead to successful implementation.

- I now declare the Royal Golden Jubilee Ph.D. Congress XIII open and wish you all success.

- Thank you.