

Chairman's Welcome Address

Dr. Nitish Sengupta, Chairman, Board for Reconstruction of Public Sector Enterprises, Members of MDI Board of Governors, Prof. Mukul Gupta, Director, MDI, Prof. Ashok Panjwani, Dean, Graduate Programs, Prof. Ashok Kapoor, Dean, Executive Graduate Programmes, Prof. S. Chatterjee, Dean, Consulting & Executive Development, Prof. N.P.Singh, Dean, Research & Accreditation, Members of Diplomatic Missions, distinguished guests, parents and family members of our students, faculty and staff, friends from media, and my dear graduating students.

On behalf of the Board of Governors, and on my own behalf, I welcome you all to the 2013 Convocation of Management Development Institute, Gurgaon. It is indeed a great pleasure for me to extend a warm welcome to our Chief Guest, Dr. Nitish Sengupta. His presence here is a great honour for us and a great inspiration for the graduating students. Dr. Sengupta is a role model for all of us. The few glimpses I had of him as a junior officer in Planning Commission, when he was its Member-Secretary, have left a deep imprint on me of what a civil servant should be like. Many of you might know him more as the driving force in the journey of IMI from relative obscurity to one of the most prestigious Management Schools of the country. However, when it is said that Dr. Sengupta is a role model for all of us, it is so, not only for civil servants like me and academics like you but also for politicians since it is worth remembering, that Dr. Sengupta represented with distinction Mednipur, West Bengal in our Lok Sabha. In fact, Dr. Sengupta manifests the glorious face of India's idealism, best exemplified in some of those who came of age immediately after independence, an idealism, which, however eroded or battered, is still the force that binds this nation together. In what is somewhat of a home coming for Dr. Sengupta who has been on the MDI Board as its Chairman, I do hope that he endorses the developments at MDI since then as worthy of his legacy.

I welcome my colleagues on the Board of Governors whose guidance and continued support have helped MDI achieve excellence in all its activities. I would also like to extend a warm welcome to our esteemed guests from the government and corporate world and representatives of foreign missions. We are honoured by your presence here on this auspicious occasion.

MDI was set up by the IFCI in 1973 as a society devoted to management education and research. Over the years, it has grown substantially which gets reflected in the number and quality of programs it offers. Ranked consistently among the top business schools of the country, the Institute has earned an outstanding reputation for itself because of its dedicated and committed faculty and the hard work and sincerity of the officers and staff. As a result of their efforts, the Institute has been able to create an indelible mark at the national and international levels in the fields of academics and research. Above all, however, the reputation that MDI enjoys today is a reflection of the contributions made by the students of MDI in their careers in the world of business, academics and public life.

MDI provides an enabling environment for nurturing talent, excellence and innovation. Global networking provides MDI students and faculty the much needed opportunities for sharing experiences and adopting best practices. Through its various training and consulting assignments the Institute facilitates the process of bringing about improvements in organizational practices in the public and private sectors. In a span of 40 years, MDI, Gurgaon has attained an enviable position in all the four areas of business education, training, research and consulting.

I would like to congratulate Prof. Mukul Gupta, Director MDI for yet another and a very unique initiative of setting up at MDI the first of its kind International Summer University (ISU) within the country. Under the ISU, MDI has added 10 Indian universities and institutions to form a network of learning wherein 40 international students and 40 students from Indian institutions would take courses from 9 faculty from MDI's international partner schools.

CHAIRMAN'S WELCOME ADDRESS

SHRI ATUL KUMAR RAI

MDI Campus

March 22, 2013

This year a new Activity Centre is being constructed to add to the infrastructure and provide for more classrooms and other student facilities. 64 new housing units are being built to accommodate more faculty and staff within the Campus.

I would also like to thank the faculty and staff of MDI, for their sincere efforts all through the year which has led to this Convocation.

I would like to convey my heartiest congratulations to the parents and members of the families of all the graduating students and compliment them for providing their children with the guidance to withstand the pressures of a very demanding course at MDI and come out with flying colours.

My heartiest congratulations to the graduating students. You carry the burden of all our hopes and aspirations. I do hope that we have equipped you well to shoulder this burden. The business environment the world over is rife with uncertainty that one might say, the world has not seen since the days of Industrial Revolution. The knowledge and skills, but more importantly the moral and ethical values that MDI encourage will be a great start which I am sure you would all carry forward to make us all very proud of each one of you.

Let me take this opportunity to thank my colleagues on the Board for their whole-hearted support. I acknowledge the time and effort they have given to MDI unhesitatingly.

A very warm welcome to all of you once again.

I now invite the Director of MDI to share with all of us the progress and achievements over the last year.

Atul Kumar Rai
Chairman
MDI Board of Governors

