



The Chief Guest of the evening, Shri. Kamal Bali, Members of the Governing Council of the Institute, Director, members of the faculty, staff, my dear students, parents, and distinguished invitees,

We are extremely happy to have Shri Kamal Bali amidst us today. He is a dynamic business leader who has been tirelessly promoting the 'Make in India' initiative, which aims to invigorate the manufacturing sector and increase India's global competitiveness. We are fortunate that you have delivered the convocation address today and I am sure our students will derive immense benefit, encouragement, and inspiration from your address.

I am delighted to be with all of you on this occasion and wish to share a few thoughts.

In the last two decades, India has made great progress. We have made some vital contributions to the world, in particular in the field of space technology. Our country has been accepted internationally for its goods and services. Several Indian brands are recognized globally, and we are a force to reckon in many fields. Around the world, professionals from our country are sought after and are well respected. Amidst all this, there is still a lot to be done to improve our worth in the face of international competition.

While we have made great progress in the areas of Science and Technology, Engineering & IT, on many other fronts, we still have a long way to go. We are faced with the huge challenge of economic upliftment of the poor, gender equality, illiteracy, corruption, terrorism among other issues. We need better infrastructure, a good law enforcement system, better education, safety for women, business-friendly policies to name just a few. An absence of these is having a negative impact on our economy.



The progress of a nation depends mainly on the quality of its human resources. In our country, if everyone has access to a good quality of education, we will have a large pool of skilled manpower. We need Institutes that provide a world-class education. We need teachers who can light the fire of knowledge in students and help them navigate their life's journey. We need students who have the thirst to learn and the urge to participate in nation building. Our Institutes of higher learning, the management Institutes, in particular, have a very big role to play in nation building.

Our education system must instil good values in young people and shape them into wonderful human beings who will build a better tomorrow. Our curriculum should equip students with the skills necessary to transform them into confident and capable individuals who will go on to be great managers. These committed youngsters would ensure a safer and better India. They will be the leaders of tomorrow who will be emotionally intelligent and ethical in their outlook.

At SDMIMD, our curriculum is revised every year to ensure that our students get the best. We seek inputs from the industry and incorporate them into our courses. The PGDM program has a mix of foundation courses in the first year and electives in the second year allowing the students to gain a firm grounding in a managerial discipline of choice. Over the years, we have internationalized the learning experience. While we have the ACBSP and EFMD EPAS accreditations, we have recently become members of AACSB and will soon be seeking this accreditation as well.

Ethics and values sadly have no value in many a manager's view. SDMIMD, as indeed all the institutions coming under the Dharmasthala Trust, necessarily ensure that the ethical and righteous approach is never lost sight of. Every would-be manager's education is based on a firm

foundation of ethics and values. To ensure that our students are empathetic and sensitive to the needs of people less fortunate than themselves, we have a credit course at SDMIMD titled Socially Relevant Project. As a part of this course, students visit and interact with NGOs and charitable organizations. Yoga is a part of the curriculum and serves to help young people keep their body and mind fit

An award-winning campus equipped with the state-of-the-art infrastructure and a well-stocked library provides students with a wonderful environment conducive to learning. Add to this, a dedicated faculty team who ensure that they uphold the highest standards in teaching and research, and you have a great place where learning is fun, interesting, relevant and experiential.

As I look back over the years, I am filled with a great sense of satisfaction. We have come a long way since the time we started this Institute. Yet, I know that there is a lot more to do. I am fully aware that the new challenges in the industry as well on the managerial education front require us to work tirelessly to improve in every aspect. I am sure that the faculty team, ably guided by the Director will work in this direction. With your continued support, we will scale greater heights in the days to come.

Today is a joyous day for all of us, and a momentous occasion for the students who have been awarded the Post Graduate Diploma in Management. It is a significant milestone in your life's journey. I congratulate each one of you and your families on this achievement. In this hour of joy, let me remind you of your larger duty towards our nation and society. Remember to give back to society and strive to make this world a better place to live in. Your parents have made great sacrifices to help you get this far. Do remember to take care of them and be with them in their hour of need.



I am certain that you will be worthy ambassadors of the Institute and will uphold the values of the Institute. Remember, that you are part of the SDMIMD family and we will always be there for you. I wish that you stay connected with the Institute and inspire your juniors with your achievements in life. We would be delighted to hear from you. Let me wish each one of you a great career and a life of abundance.

Let me conclude with a prayer to Lord Manjunathaswamy and all deities of Shree Kshethra Dharmasthala to bless and bestow good fortune on all of you.

THANK YOU.

Dr. D. Veerendra Heggade

Chairman, SDMIMD

