

'Lack of Equality in Opportunities will Impede Growth'

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Mysore: Tata International chairman B Muthuraman on Friday said that lack of equality in terms of opportunity is the single most important challenge the country is facing, which is also an impediment to development. The corporate houses have a bigger role to play in doing away with it.

Delivering the 18th convocation address at the Shri Dharmasthala Majunatheshwara Institute of Management Development here, he said the

most important challenge than corruption, which could be deterrent to the growth, is lack of equality. "I don't mean equality of outcomes. It is equality of opportunities," he said. The merit should be governed by social circumstances and not purely on academic performance, he opined.

Stating that every industry and business house have a role to play in bridging the social gap by giving equal opportunities to all, he said if not, if it would even impede the growth of every individual

working in those companies. If the problems concerning equality are not solved, it would only grow bigger.

Stressed the need for behavioural change among the industries and business houses, Muthuraman said it can be achieved when they are measured not in terms of profits but through what they return to the society.

Disapproving the idea of Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR), he said the moment, it not made mandatory, will not happen but the

incentives can make a change. He called upon the graduating students to introspect as to what kind of company to chose and the legacy they want to leave behind.

The subjects learnt in schools and colleges are not sufficient and only the possession of knowledge is not success. Seventy per cent is outside the conceptual knowledge like virtues, decision making, capacity to accept success and failure alike and many of which are not taught in schools. They come

by through softer aspects of life like music, yoga, action reflection cycle etc, he said.

Gold Medallists

Natansha Sharma won two gold medals (Chairman's distinguished student gold medal and gold medal for excellent performance in marketing). Arun Shan S, Priya Batra, Neha Maheshwari, Padmini S K and Zatakia Jayakumar won a medal each. As many as 164 students were awarded post graduate diploma in management.