



CONVOCATION WELCOME ADDRESS

4th Annual Convocation - IMI Kolkata



International Management Institute
Kolkata

4th Annual Convocation - IMI Kolkata

Welcome Address by Mr. Aniruddha Basu

Good morning ladies and gentlemen!

It is my great pleasure to welcome you all; Graduates of IMI Kolkata batch of 2014-16, as also families and friends of our Graduates. A very special welcome to our Chief Guest Dr. Un-Chan Chung, Chairman, Korea Institute for Shared Growth and former Prime Minister, Republic of Korea. My greetings to our own faculty members, staff, and current students of IMI Kolkata. I also welcome our friends and well-wishers from commerce and industry, other dignitaries and also media representatives.

Chairman, IMI Kolkata Board of Governors Mr. Sanjiv Goenka was looking forward to be present this morning, unfortunately he is unable to attend this Convocation. He sends his warm greetings to all of you and good wishes to those who will be receiving their diplomas at this Convocation.

This year's Convocation of IMI Kolkata should go down as a landmark because of the distinguished presence of a world renowned economist who also happens to be the former Prime Minister of the Republic of Korea. This is Dr. Un-Chan Chung's first visit to India and we all feel very proud that Kolkata is his first entry point in this country.

While IMI Kolkata Director Dr. Arindam Banik will place before you the activities of the institute in greater detail, I would like to share with you the good news that 70 students will be graduating from IMI Kolkata this year. Out of these 70 students, we are delighted to notice a growing number of talented women students and this time 26 of them will be graduating.

I am also delighted to congratulate all the students who have recently been successfully recruited by top-ranking organizations. Soon they will fan out across India in their new assignments as ambassadors of a young and vibrant educational institution.

The 4th Convocation of IMI Kolkata represents a changing moment in the lives of our Graduates, marking another milestone for this institute. I take this opportunity to urge our Graduates to keep in mind the teachings of their alma mater. This day belongs to YOU, but it also belongs to your parents and guardians, some of whom have taken the trouble of being present in this hall today. I congratulate all of you and wish you an eventful and memorable journey ahead.

Today's ceremony reflects a proud moment for IMI Kolkata. As a vibrant business school, within just 5 years it has crafted a special place for itself in the academic map of the country. Recently IMI Kolkata has been ranked 12th among Indian management institutes. It has also been rated 3rd among private business schools by the National Institutional Ranking Framework (NIRF), Ministry of Human Resource Development, Government of India. IMI Kolkata has also been awarded the status of a "Rising Star" among Indian business schools by the Ministry of HRD, Government of India. The two-year full time PGDM programme of our institute is now NBA accredited, it has also been accorded equivalence with the Master of Business Administration (MBA) Degree by Association of Indian Universities (AIU), effective July 2016 for a period of two years.

IMI Delhi, in its early days courageously faced the challenges of India's pre-liberalization phase. The Late Dr. R.P Goenka in 1981 took the initiative to form a society, called the International Management Society. In 1981 IMI was established as India's first corporate-sponsored business school, with its campus in New Delhi which was built in collaboration with the then IMI, Geneva, Switzerland to provide skills-based education.

Three decades later, in 2010, Dr. Rama Prasad Goenka and his son Sanjiv Goenka pioneered IMI Kolkata and Bhubaneswar. The development of IMI Kolkata reflected their strong emotional connect with the city which had been the knowledge capital of the country for many years

supported by a rich history of culture, art, education and intellect. We are feeling happy that IMI Kolkata has been able to live up to the Founders' dream of nurturing excellence in its own right.

We are proud that IMI Kolkata today is equipped with the best of faculty, structure and systems to support its mission to teach and train socially sensitive and globally competitive corporate citizens. The Institute's progress in engraving its name in the international space of business education has already earned global recognition. IMI Kolkata has active research and academic collaborations with ten renowned universities or institutes across the world. It has also built a promising faculty and student exchange programme. International conferences are often organized in collaboration with overseas academic institutes.

The academic and research credentials of IMI Kolkata's faculty members are now well recognized. This admission season a milestone has been crossed with IMI Kolkata offering a full-fledged PGDM programme. We are very happy that our institute has been successful in achieving 100 percent placements for its graduates. With such a momentum, I am sure IMI Kolkata will soon explore other opportunities to expand.

While we all are impressed with the efforts of IMI Kolkata to establish itself as a knowledge hub in eastern India, we wish our students higher professional pursuits and achievements. We do hope that our students, after graduating from the Alipore campus, strive to create better conditions and meaningful prosperity for fellow citizens around them and for the world at large.

We are proud to send our new graduates off to the world as trained and motivated citizens from the world of management.