

and actions. You must remember that you are trained to be good managers to manage the needs of a complex and changing society. I advise you to carry forward MDI legacy by making your mark at everything you do in the corporate world since you are going out in the world with the learning you acquired here.

My dear students, today is a special day as you stand at the threshold of life transiting from the predictable and protected business school environment to the complex and unpredictable challenges of the business world. You have to welcome this new phase of your life with an optimistic mind and passionate heart. You are blessed that the time is just ripe for you when the Golden Age of growth has dawned for India. This is an era, full of opportunities and challenges. India is on its course to achieving over 7.3% growth this year and becoming the world's 5th largest economy. There are a growing number of Indian success stories in every sphere – academic, science and technology, business and industry, sport – you name it and we have begun to dominate on the world stage. The Government has also launched initiatives to boost employment and economic growth such as Make in India, Digital India and Start-up India – to name a few. In this stable macro-economic and progressive policy driven environment, the students graduating today will be the pivots of change. I believe that a critical factor for success in the emerging global economic environment will be your ability to effect a radical change in traditional mind-sets. You are young and you have the power to change the future course for all of us because you can reject the status quo and stereotype. You are naturally endowed with the power to hope, to dream and to act upon your dreams. Here I would like to remind you that great changes in the world have often been brought about by young people. Time is ripe now to seize the opportunity and create your own legacy.

My students, there will be many more milestones in life and every time you celebrate, just be sure that we will be equally joyous because for MDI, you will always be family. We truly believe that you will be the face of this nation. With conviction and full faith in all my dear students, I wish you luck and a great future ahead.

I take this opportunity to thank my colleagues on the Board for their whole-hearted support and cooperation and trust in all the endeavors.

A very warm welcome to all of you once again!

Dr. Emandi Sankara Rao  
Chairman  
MDI Board of Governors

# CONVOCAATION 2018



## Chairman's Welcome Address Dr. Emandi Sankara Rao

## Chairman's Welcome Address

The Chief Guest for Convocation 2018 of MDI Gurgaon, Mr. G M Rao, Group Chairman, GMR Group, Members of Board of Governors of MDI, Director, Dr. Himadri Das, Dean Graduate Programmes, Prof D P Goyal, Dean Executive Graduate Programmes, Prof Sangeeta Bhardwaj, Dean Continuing Education, Prof S. Chatterjee, Dean Research, Prof Radha Sharma, Dean Consulting and Advancement, Prof Atmanand, eminent guests, faculty members and staff, parents and family members of our students, friends from the media and my dear young friends who are donning the robe on this august occasion!

On behalf of the members of the Board of Governors, I extend a very hearty welcome to all of you on the occasion of the Annual Convocation 2018 of Management Development Institute Gurgaon.

We are privileged to have amongst us Shri G.M. Rao garu as Chief Guest for the occasion. Thank you Shri Rao garu, for acceding to our request and gracing this occasion with your presence. Your contribution to industry is immense, being the first-generation entrepreneur and founder of the GMR Group. We eagerly await your advice to this young audience on the threshold of embarking on a new experience of life.

I also welcome our distinguished guests from the Government and the Corporate World who have graced the occasion today. Their presence has added glow to this function.

On this very appropriate occasion, I would like to express a very sincere appreciation, on behalf of the entire MDI community, to our outgoing Chairman, Dr. Sanjay Dhande and other members of the Board. Their steadfast commitment and wise counsel have helped MDI achieve its potential and maintain excellence in every sphere.

Dear students, we are gathered here to celebrate your achievements. I am very sure that even greater glory and fulfillment are ahead of you. Please accept my heartiest congratulations and best wishes for a life of meaning, significance and purpose.

MDI Gurgaon is an Institution which promotes excellence and nurtures talents, thus enlivens the vision to create Thought Leaders and Change Masters. Established in 1973 by IFCI, the Institute has grown manifolds in number and quality of its programme offerings. Our long term programmes aim at integrating knowledge, research, industry experience and international exposure. We have international partnerships with reputed universities and institutes all over the globe, thus enabling students and faculty to avail opportunities to share experiences, exchange ideas and broaden perspectives through exchange programmes. MDI's strong connect with the industry practitioners

helps in reviewing the curriculum and making it more relevant for the corporate sector. These industry leaders participate in various roles and capacities, thereby further enriching the offerings at MDI. Institute's illustrious alumni have always contributed by giving us insights on the expectation from the industry and thus preparing the students to meet those expectations.

MDI has positioned itself as a competitive, high quality and a reputed institution of higher learning. Consistently been ranked among the top business schools in the country, the Institute has created a strong image and a stellar reputation for itself both at the national and international levels. MDI is one of the largest schools in India for training and development of managers. More than 90000 managers have been trained over 45 years by the Institute with specially designed executive development programmes for different organizations each year.

At MDI, we prepare our students in such a way that they emerge not only the captains of industry, but also crusaders for social good, thus serving both, companies and society. Keeping this in mind, MDI has included social entrepreneurship as part of curricula, equipping the would-be corporate professionals with entrepreneurial vision to connect business interests to social value. The institute prides itself on cultivating what it calls "change agents" and these students graduate to become catalysts of social revolutions with simple innovations. Steeped in both social and business principles with a humanitarian touch, this new generation of management graduates will be able to navigate complexity and create opportunities to sustain the world we live and work in. Faculty at MDI is also fueling research with social sector practitioners, which translates into new case studies and discussions for the classroom. As part of their mission, they are bringing their knowledge and business acumen to proven business models in order to find answers to social and environmental issues.

MDI Gurgaon has thus created a name for itself with a good strength of committed faculty and a supportive staff that very much understands what the academic needs are and how they should be fulfilled. I congratulate the faculty and staff of MDI who have helped in bringing glory to the Institute, to help reach where it is today for future generations to build upon. I also congratulate the proud parents and family members of the graduating batch and thank them for imbibing the right values which have helped their wards getting chiseled from here.

I would now like to say a few words to my graduating students for whom the day marks a major milestone in life. We appreciate your hard work and applaud your achievements. You have been fortunate to have received the finest of the education from your dear parents and teachers. In the present fast changing and complex world, I hope what you have learnt here will guide your thinking