

## **INDIAN INSTITUTE OF MANAGEMENT CALCUTTA**

**Annual Foundation Day**

**November 14, 2023**

**Speech by Professor Sahadeb Sarkar, Director-in-Charge, IIM Calcutta**

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Honourable Chief Guest, Shri Sudheesh Venkatesh, the Chief Communications Officer and Managing Editor of the Azim Premji Foundation, Shri Shrikrishna Kulkarni, Honourable Chairperson, Board of Governors, IIM Calcutta; Honorable Members of the Board of Governors, Distinguished Alumni; Prof. Manish Thakur, Dean - New Initiative and External Relations & Dean-Academic (Acting); respected Faculty colleagues; Dear Students of the Doctoral Programme, MBA and PGDBA Programmes, MBAEX and PGPEX-VLM Programmes; Officers and Staff of the Institute; Members of the Press and Media; Ladies and Gentlemen.

A very good evening, to all of you.

Let me begin by congratulating all the distinguished alumni award winners today and welcome them and all of their families to IIM Calcutta. We are delighted to have you back with us on campus. It gives me immense pleasure to welcome you all to celebrate the Institute's Annual Foundation Day.

I would like to mention that, every year, the Foundation Day Lecture is delivered by a person of eminence who has made a very significant impact in her/his chosen field of endeavor. In the last few years, some of our distinguished Chief Guests to deliver the Institute's Foundation Day Lecture were:

- Shri Shyam Srinivasan, Managing Director & CEO of Federal Bank.
- Shri Pradeep Singh Kharola, IAS Officer and Former Chairman & Managing Director, Air India.

- Jagdeep Dhankhar, Hon'ble Former Governor of West Bengal and Present Vice President of India.
- Shri Amolak Rattan Kohli, Hon'ble Former Governor of Mizoram.
- Professor Dipesh Chakraborty, Lawrence A. Kimpton Distinguished Service Professor in History at the University of Chicago.

We are extremely fortunate to have amongst us Shri Sudheesh Venkatesh, the Chief Communications Officer and Managing Editor of the Azim Premji Foundation as the Chief Guest of today's event. On behalf of the Institute, I sincerely thank him for accepting our invitation to grace today's occasion as the chief guest.

Ladies and Gentlemen! Now, I would like to say a few words about our Institute.

IIM Calcutta, the first national level institution in the field of management education, was set up in 1961 by the Government of India in collaboration with the Sloan School of Management at M.I.T, U.S.A., with the support of the State Government of West Bengal and the Ford Foundation. We celebrated our Diamond Jubilee in 2020. IIMC has come a long way from its small beginning and today it is acknowledged as one of the best institutions not only in the country but also in the Asia- Pacific region. The institute got the accreditation status from - AACSB and AMBA and EQUIS. With EQUIS accreditation we became the first Indian business school to achieve the 'Triple Crown' in accreditation, i.e. accredited by all the three major accreditation agencies in the world of management education.

Since 2012, IIM Calcutta is the only Indian member of CEMS which is a global alliance of leading business schools, multinational companies and NGOs, which together offer the **CEMS Master's in International Management**.

IIM Calcutta has been featuring in Domestic and International business school ranking since 2013.

### **International Ranking:**

In QS MIM Ranking 2024, our flagship MBA program has been ranked 50 in the World out of 201 B-Schools.

In QS Global MBA Ranking 2024, our MBAEx program has been ranked 59 in the World out of 315 B-Schools and 10 in Asia.

In QS Masters in Business Analytics Ranking 2024, our PGDBA program has been ranked in the 61-70 lot.

In FT MIM Ranking 2023, our flagship MBA program has been ranked 60 in the World.

In FT MBA Ranking 2023, our MBAEx program has been ranked 76 in the World.

### **Domestic Ranking:**

IIM Calcutta has been ranked 1st in BT-MDRA Best B-School 2023

IIM Calcutta has been ranked 4th in India Ranking by NIRF 2023

IIM Calcutta has been ranked No. 2 in the Open Magazine's Best B-School Survey 2023.

Apart from offering a two-year degree in Master of Business Administration, IIM Calcutta also offers a one-year full-time Post Graduate Programme for

Executives (PGPEX) launched in the year 2006, now known as MBAEx, and a one-year Post Graduate Programme for Executives for Visionary Leadership in Manufacturing (PGPEX-VLM) launched in the year 2007 jointly with IIT Madras and IIT Kanpur.

Our Post Graduate Diploma in Business Analytics (PGDBA) programme is jointly offered by IIM Calcutta, IIT Kharagpur, and Indian Statistical Institute and it aims to help shape the emerging profession of business analytics to build a career in this field.

We have a number of courses which have components of internationalisation, like International Management, International Finance, International Economics, etc. The Institute has set up several inter-disciplinary centres which are involved in teaching, research and consultancy activities:

- a) Management Centre for Human Values
- b) Centre for Corporate Governance
- c) Centre for Entrepreneurship and Innovation
- d) Centre for Development and Environment Policy
- e) IIMC Case Research Centre
- f) Financial Research and Trading Laboratory

### **Library – Digital Archives:**

IIM Calcutta Digital Archives was initiated and developed by B. C. Roy Memorial Library to showcase the institutional memory and the glorious history of the institute. The archives contain several collections for systematically disseminating all the information to the IIMC community and the general public. It holds an extensive collection of images, videos, audio material, and

documents. The archives deal with the timeline of all the people, events, and programs associated with the institute.

However, the IIM Calcutta digital archives is still in its infant stage and will grow further over time with all of our concerted efforts and I am happy to invite all the stakeholders to enrich it by contributing materials related to the Institute worth preserving.

I would also like to inform that on the occasion of the Diamond Jubilee Celebration, the B. C. Roy Memorial Library had initiated and developed the MCHV Library Online Public Access Catalogue to disseminate information regarding its rich collection held in the L. M. Thapar Library.

I would like to inform you that the 58<sup>th</sup> Annual Convocation of IIM Calcutta was held on 8<sup>th</sup> April, 2023. Shri Tarun Rai, Executive Director – Asia–Pacific of Wunderman Thompson, was the Chief Guest.

**Dear IIM Calcutta Fraternity,**

As you may be aware, I have taken charge as the Director-in-Charge of IIM Calcutta, only on 7<sup>th</sup> of Nov 2023 and so you will give me the benefit of being a fledgling in this office. Please allow me to share some of my thoughts, garnered over 26 years of my service as a faculty member and as a resident on campus throughout.

There is an urgent need to repair and renovate our existing infrastructure, and build new infrastructure – on a war footing. This includes physical infrastructure

to accommodate additional students, but also new classrooms and new offices to support the increasing requirement of faculty members.

On the softer side, I wish to bring our attention and focus on our student community and their welfare and safety. For their all-round growth and to inject them with a feeling of belonging and bonding with the Institute, they must experience not only top class academics but also warmth, love and affection from the faculty and staff of the Institute. It is this bonding that I believe will play a key role in ensuring that their deep connection with IIM Calcutta endures even many years after they leave this campus.

Recruiting high quality faculty members is a top priority across institutes in India and globally. Ensuring that we attract and retain the best with competitive remuneration and high quality academic and research environment will be an area we should focus on.

To help and assist faculty colleagues to take on various administrative duties, it will be our endeavor to lessen their load by reviewing and putting in place well-defined processes with carefully prepared standard operating procedures in all relevant areas of our operations.

I would like to reach out to all my faculty colleagues, staff colleagues, Members of the Board of Governors and alumni and our resident student body - without whose active support and help, it will not be possible for us to achieve our goals.

On this special day - our 63<sup>rd</sup> Foundation day of IIM Calcutta – may I request all of us to resolve and take an oath to rededicate our energies for the best interest

of IIM Calcutta so that she retains her eminence and stature as a national asset. I am sure we can achieve our goals by inculcating a deep sense of duty, ownership and responsibility in all aspects of our work environment at this great institute.