

# Management students asked to learn new skills, stay updated

## Employability Of Youths A Major Challenge For All Countries: Fin Expert

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**Mysuru:** It's not possible for any government to predict what specific skills and knowledge people will need to remain employable 10 or 20 years in the future. Therefore, it's always good that even after graduation, students keep learning and updating themselves, said Arun Maira, former member, Planning Commission of India.

Addressing students during the 21<sup>st</sup> annual convocation of SDM Institute for Management Development here on Friday, Maira said, "There are three reasons why one must le-

### SDMIMD ANNUAL CONVOCATION

arn to learn, and must learn all through one's life. Firstly, if you want to be employable throughout your life, you have to learn new skills and acquire new knowledge which cannot be given even in the best institution. The biggest challenge all countries face today is how they can ensure their young people will have jobs in the future. New technologies are changing the nature of work very rapidly. We should ensure that young people become good learners throughout their lives, and they continue to learn new skills and acquire new knowledge that will be required as their professions evolve. The other



**BIG MOMENT:** Gold medal winners of 2014-15 seen with guests, including D Veerendra Heggade, chairman of SDMIMD, and Arun Maira, former member of Planning Commission of India (sitting, third from left), at the institutes 21st convocation on Friday

reason to learn is to be a better innovator. Innovators develop new ideas, and new products and services."

"There is a mistaken view that technology is the solution to the world's problems of poverty and ignorance. Technology is neutral – it can be used by both sides of a conflict. The internet can be used by citizens to protest against their government and it can be used by governments for surveillance of citizens. Nuclear technology can be used for generating clean energy. It can also be used to destroy the lives of mil-

lions of people. Universities and colleges must play a leadership role in the country's quest for sustainable prosperity for all Indians. They must teach students to ask good questions, and to learn to learn. There is a big movement around the world, and it's coming to India too, to smarten up teaching with digital technology. We must take advantage of technology and we must also know its limitations. Technology will not teach us how to listen, how to learn and how to respect others. Great centres of learning must promote diversity, teach

art of dialogue, teach students to keep learning and should not force students to learn only one view but instead they must enable them to see the lenses within their own minds that make them see others as stereotypes, that create biases in their minds, and that shut out different ideas," he added.

Gold medals to outstanding students of the 2014-16 batch were distributed by Arun Maira and D Veerendra Heggade, chairman, SDMIMD. The institute also awarded post-graduate diploma in management to 170 students.

Kriti Shukla, gold medallist in Systems, gold medallist in HR, and the winner of the Chairman's Distinguished Student Award, said "The PGDM course at SDMIMD has been an extremely value-adding experience. Be it in terms of knowledge or skills, it has helped me develop into a complete professional. Having specialized in HR and Systems, I want to establish myself as a techno-functional HR working on niche skills in the IT industry."

Neethu Prabhakaran, who emerged as the best overall student, won the gold medal for overall good performance in Marketing while Dronamraju Sirisha and Anuraag S Shapur won gold medals for good performance in Finance and Operations respectively.