

B-SCHOOL CORNER

Team BLoC

IMI Kolkata hosts 6th PGDM orientation programme



Chief guest Barun Chanda with IMI Kolkata Director Prof Arindam Banik (standing, left and right)

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Speakers encourage freshers to develop inter-personal skills, self-evaluate and excel at what they're good at

On June 20, industry experts and corporate heads participated in IMI Kolkata's 6th Orientation Programme for its PGDM batch of 2016-18.

In his welcome address, IMI Kolkata Director Dr Arindam Banik highlighted the significant milestone IMI Kolkata had achieved by being ranked the 12th Best Management Institute this year by the National Institutional Ranking Framework, Ministry of Human Resource Development, Government of India. This is no mean feat for any institution, particularly one that is just six years old, he said.

Barun Chanda, Bollywood personality, writer, advertisement guru and elocutionist, gave the inaugural address. Chanda is fondly remembered for his role as a protagonist in Satyajit Ray's *Simbadhhaa* released in 1971. He also enthralled audiences with his stellar performance as the dignified *zamindar* in popular Bollywood film *Lootera*. In his brief yet inspiring address Chanda compared a student's life with the light emanating from a lamp. He exemplified how patience should be a virtue we must hold on to in the midst of struggles, so we can shine bright.

'Stay humble'

Keynote speaker Abhijit Patel, Director-Technology Consulting at Pricewaterhouse Coopers, Kolkata, through an interactive discussion, challenged the students to gain some perspective as they embarked on this new journey; to not just be academic achievers but equip themselves with inter-personal skills that will make them industry-ready. He encouraged the students to always be open to new experiences and stay humble.

Shubhasis Mitra, Executive Director, CESC, won over the audience with his steady wit and repartee. Borrowing from his experiences, he stressed the importance of good communication skills, constant self-evaluation and an entrepreneurial streak for being successful managers.

Mantra for success

Sunil Bandari, Executive Director-Corporate at RP Sanjiv Goenka Group, shared his valuable insights and inspired the students, saying: "Not everyone can be number one; however, we all have the potential to be the best at what we are capable of."

Guest speeches were followed by a briefing by Dr Paramita Mukherjee, Dean Academics, and Dr Mohua Bannerjee, Dean Placement. While Dr Paramita briefed the students about the academic structure at IMI Kolkata, Dr Mohua spoke about the recent success of 100 per cent placement at IMI Kolkata and touched upon key points of the placement procedure.

In the post-lunch sessions, the students were introduced to the clubs and committees at IMI Kolkata. This gave them a glimpse of the engaging and empowering environment provided at the institute.

The event ended with a cultural programme that showcased fun-filled activities including a debate and Antakshari competitions and made for an entertaining evening.