

‘You are on the way to seeing the high noon of the new India’: SEBI Chief Ms Madhabi Puri Buch Says to Graduating Students at IIMA Convocation

~ 610 Young Leaders Graduate at the 59th Annual Convocation of IIMA

~ SEBI Chairperson Ms Madhabi Puri Buch delivered Convocation Address as the Chief Guest for the event

~ Mr Pankaj R Patel, Chairperson, IIMA Board of Governors and Prof Bharat Bhasker, Director, IIMA addressed the gathering

March 30, 2024: The Indian Institute of Management Ahmedabad (IIMA) hosted its 59th Annual Convocation in the lush green lawns of the majestic Louis Kahn Plaza today, which has served as the Convocation venue since 1974. This year, the Institute had the honour to host Ms Madhabi Puri Buch, IIMA alumna and Chairperson of the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI), as the Chief Guest. Ms Buch was joined on stage by Mr Pankaj R Patel, Chairperson, Board of Governors, IIMA; Professor Bharat Bhasker, Director, IIMA; and the Board of Governors and faculty members.

The Convocation procession was led by Professor Pradyumana Khokle, Dean (Programmes), along with the Chairperson of the Doctoral Programme in Management, Professor Diptesh Ghosh. They were followed by Chairpersons of all programmes, faculty members, and graduating students, wearing ceremonial stoles decorated with the IIMA logo. As the Convocation procession entered the iconic LKP in the warm radiance of the setting Sun, the procession was cheered by the members of the IIMA community and family members of the graduating students.

Delivering the welcome address, **Mr Pankaj R Patel, Chairperson, Board of Governors, IIMA** spoke about the changing landscape of the industry, on the back of technological innovations and disruptions, and advised graduating students on the importance of being humane in their approach as young leaders. “A leader should have an appetite for technological innovation. He or she must have the openness to understand the technical advancements happening around and the impact that it could possibly have on the business or the organisation. But remember, in your hot pursuit for success, accolades, organisational growth, and professional growth as a leader, let us not forget the essence of humanity in business. The role of a leader is critical in this respect as you would be aware of the fear of job displacement due to automation. It is imperative for leaders to understand and make their teams look at technology not as a threat but an opportunity. Team play is crucial in this journey towards success. Take an approach that is inclusive, draw upon the strengths and talents of each member in your team,” he said.

This year's Convocation celebrated the graduation of a total of 610 young leaders from four programmes, including 20 scholars from the Doctoral Programme in Management (DPM), 396 students from the two-year Post Graduate Programme in Management (MBA), 47 students from the two-year Post Graduate Programme in Food and Agri-business Management (MBA-FABM), and 147 students from the one-year full-time Post Graduate Programme in Management for Executives (MBA-PGPX). All of them received their graduation certificates from the Chairman.

Siddhant Agarwal, Pancham Gupta and Ayushi Srivastava from MBA, Kartik Nayyar from MBA-FABM, and Gopi Ethamukkalam from MBA-PGPX programmes were felicitated by the Chief Guest with gold medals in recognition of their academic accomplishments.

Sharing her experience and insights with the students in her Convocation address, **Ms Madhabi Puri Buch, Chairperson, SEBI** recounted her days at the Institute as a student and said that the most valuable takeaway for her was the ability to think through challenges, do right and leave no stone unturned to achieve the goals that she had set for herself. Sharing anecdotes from her own professional journey, she urged the students to introspect, explore and discover their own personal mantras that would eventually serve as their guiding light in their professional journeys ahead.

She advised the students to choose the right approach and be adaptable to the changing business landscape. Speaking of the opportunities that lie ahead of the fresh graduates, Ms Buch said, "My generation got to ride the wave of the dawn of a new India. You will get to see the high noon of the new India. Everywhere, there is opportunity for growth, for inclusion, for entrepreneurship, for breaking the mould, and for leading the world."

This year too, IIMA had a successful placement season with students across MBA, MBA-FABM, and MBA-PGPX receiving offers from leading companies from diverse sectors, and PhD scholars receiving job offers from leading Academic and Research Institutes.

In his concluding address, **Professor Bharat Bhasker, Director, IIMA**, gave a brief overview of the institute's activities and achievements during the past one year. Addressing the graduating batches, Professor Bhasker said, "The rigorous training and holistic skill development you have received at IIMA has equipped you with the confidence to thrive in a complex and ever-changing world. Today's increasingly dynamic and digital era demands a new you every few steps ahead. So, keep reinventing yourself with new learnings and skills. Keep sharpening the right aptitude and acumen to turn every challenge into an opportunity."

Motivating the graduating students with the words of Franklin D Roosevelt, Professor Bhasker said, "A smooth sea never made a skilled sailor". So, take charge of your sail, and I am sure that you all will make a mark to take the glory of IIMA far and wide."

The ceremony concluded with the Chairperson declaring the convocation closed. As the ceremony concluded, graduated students celebrated this momentous occasion of their lives with their families and friends.

About IIM Ahmedabad:

The Indian Institute of Management Ahmedabad (IIMA) is a premier, global management Institute that is at the forefront of promoting excellence in the field of management education. In more than six decades of its existence, the Institute has been acknowledged for its exemplary contributions to scholarship, practice and policy through its distinctive teaching, high-quality research, nurturing future leaders, supporting industry, government, social enterprise and creating a progressive impact on society.

IIMA was founded as an innovative initiative by the Government, industry, and international academia in 1961. Since then, it has been consolidating its global footprint and today it has a network with over 80 top international institutions and a presence in Dubai. Its eminent faculty members and more than 44,000 alumni, who are at the helm of influential positions in all walks of life also contribute to its global recognition. Over the years, IIMA's academically superior, market-driven, and socially impactful programmes, have earned high reputation and acclaim globally. It became the first Indian institution to receive international accreditation from EQUIS. The institute also is placed first in the Government of India's National Institutional Ranking Framework (NIRF), India Rankings 2023. The Institute has been ranked number 1 in India, number 2 in Asia and 35th globally, in the Financial Times (FT) Executive Education Rankings 2023. The renowned flagship two-year Post Graduate Programme in Management (PGP) is ranked 43rd in the FT Masters in Management Ranking 2023 and the one-year Post Graduate Programme in Management for Executives (PGPX) have been ranked 41st in the FT Global MBA rankings 2024.

IIMA offers consultancy services and more than 200 curated executive education programmes in customized, blended, and open enrolment formats for a diverse audience comprising business leaders, policymakers, industry professionals, academicians, government officials, armed forces personnel, agri-business and other niche sector specialists and entrepreneurs.

To know more about IIMA, please visit: <https://www.iima.ac.in/>

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