

## Great Lakes Institute of Management, Chennai hosts its 11th Convocation

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6 best outgoing students and 4 academic toppers awarded with gold medals*

**Chennai, 15<sup>th</sup> July 2015:** Great Lakes Institute of Management, Chennai, held its annual Convocation at the CTC Convention Center, Chennai. The chief guests for the occasion Mr. Ratan N Tata, Chairman - TATA Trusts participated in the convocation interaction and Mr. Faizal E Kottikollan, Founder and Chairman, KEF Holdings, Dubai delivered the presidential address.



A total of 611 students graduated this year across five different full-time and executive programs including PGPM, PGDM, PGXPM, PGPM (Flex) and PGP-BABI. Six best outgoing students and four academic toppers from each program received Gold medals during the graduation ceremony.

Welcoming the gathering, **Dr Bala V Balachandran, Founder, Dean & Chairman, Great Lakes Institute of Management**, said, *"It gives me great pleasure to welcome our Chief Guests to Great Lakes. I feel proud to be present here on the 11th convocation ceremony of Great Lakes in the presence of our honorable guests. I firmly believe that it is a confluence of diverse thoughts and ideas which make an institute grow and reach even greater heights. I can say with conviction that today's graduates stand by this very principle of diversity at Great Lakes. Step out and make your alma mater proud."*

Speaking on the convocation, **Chief Guest, Mr. Ratan Tata, Chairman - TATA Trusts**, said, *"I express my deepest and genuine congratulations to the graduating class. The purpose of this curriculum given to you at Great Lakes will be realized once you leave this place. And that is when your real learning starts. Just be yourself and be driven by the desire to make a difference."*

Delivering the presidential address, **Mr. Faizal E Kottikollan, Founder and Chairman, KEF Holdings, Dubai**, said, *"I am privileged to be in the presence of Mr Ratan Tata, who has been my inspiration. I would like to congratulate all the students on their milestone. Today, as you*



*graduate, I wish you all to be different and think different. Just hold on to your values as it is these values that will define you as a good human being.”*

Mr. Ratan Tata and Mr. Faizal E Kottikollon were awarded Life Time Achievement awards by Dr. Bala for their outstanding contribution to Management and Global entrepreneurship. The event also saw the release of the book – “Living Legends Learning Lessons”, authored by Dr. Bala and Ms. Kavipriya,

alumna of Great Lakes. The Book was released by Mr. Ratan Tata.

Besides academic toppers, medals and certificates were awarded to nearly 70 graduands in the following categories - Dean’s Merit List, Domain toppers, best Empirical Study and Committee contributors.

One of the highlights this year was, twenty graduating PGPM students from Great Lakes who completed their six weeks exchange program with University of Bordeaux , France in July 2015, will also be receiving their MBA (Level- M2) degree in European Business Administration and International Business from University of Bordeaux subsequently during Bordeaux University’s graduation ceremony .