



# GREAT KONNECT

Dear Great Laker,

February 2015

Greetings!

We are delighted to bring to you the February edition of 'Great Konnect' with the latest updates from the campus.

The first two months of the year have been eventful for Great Lakes. A glorious 10 years' celebration at Mumbai in the presence of Shri. Adi Godrej and Sh. Keki Dadiseth as chief-guests, followed by a remarkable evening at Hotel Leela Palace, Chennai, where the 10 year celebrations concluded, the months of January and February have been buzzing with a lot of activities.

Dr. Bala's biography – "**Dare to Dream**" and the Tamil version of the same book titled "**Vetri veliyai illai**" was released at the ten year celebrations.

The Annual Great Lakes – Union Bank Conference was hosted at the campus on the theme "**Emerging issues in Economics & Finance**" and the chief guest for the event was Mr. Vijay Prakash Usharia, Regional Head (Chennai) Union Bank Of India.

Republic day was celebrated with high spirits in the campus. Patriotism was high in the air as Uncle Bala hoisted the National Flag.

It was a proud moment for all of us when Great Lakers excelled in different sports activities and won many medals. Great Lakers were runners up in the overall Championship in the recently concluded sports event at SIBM.

Samer, Raghvi, Nupur and I bring to you the February edition of Great Konnect.

We look forward to hearing from you with your stories, comments and feedbacks at [alcom@greatlakes.edu.in](mailto:alcom@greatlakes.edu.in) .

Happy Reading,  
Priyanka Manoj Kumar  
Editor - Great Konnect

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## *Great Lakes Celebrates Decade of Excellence at Mumbai*

10<sup>th</sup> year anniversary of Great Lakes was celebrated at Taj Mahal Hotel, Mumbai on 12<sup>th</sup> January 2015. Sh. Adi Godrej, Chairman of Godrej Group, was the Chief Guest of the honour and Sh. Keki Dadiseth, Former Chairman of Hindustan Unilever Limited and Sh. Jerry Rao, Founder and former CEO of Mphasis were the guests of honour.

Speaking on the occasion, Uncle Bala said, "I am proud to be part of such a young and enterprising Institute. Our innovative and world class management offerings have put Great Lakes Institute of Management on the global B-School map. It is without a doubt that a high quality of education is of paramount importance to the institute and we assure that for the next decade and many more decades to come that we will continue to perform at a global standard. Our one and only objective is to educate extraordinary leaders who can positively reshape business and society while constantly revolutionizing."



"Dare to Dream" - Biography of Prof. Bala V Balachandran by V Ramanan was also launched during the occasion and the evening was summarised with enchanting *ghazal* performance followed by dinner. There was a special video message from Sh. Ratan Tata congratulating Great Lakes on their 10 glorious years.

We have been celebrating ten years of excellence across the country in the presence of prominent dignitaries. The Bangalore event was graced with the presence of Mr. Subroto Bagchi, Chairman of Mindtree and Ms. Vinita Bali, Former MD and CEO of Britannia. The Delhi event had Shri Sunil Kant Munjal, Joint MD Hero Motorcorp Ltd and Shri D Shivakumar, Chairman and CEO of Pepsi Co India as chief guests. The Hyderabad event had the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh Shri N Chandrababu Naidu, Shri G V Prasad, CEO of Dr. Reddy's Laboratories, and Shri Srinu Raju, Co-Founder & MD of Peepul Capital Advisors as the guests of honour.

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## *Great Lakes concludes 10 year celebrations at Chennai*

Great Lakes hosted an eventful evening for its corporate guests, alumni and staff members at Hotel Leela Palace, Chennai to mark its 10<sup>th</sup> year anniversary, on the 23<sup>rd</sup> of January, 2015. The yearlong celebrations which started in January 2014, concluded with this mega event in Chennai. Shri. Venu Srinivasan, Chairman - TVS Motors and Managing Director - Sundaram Clayton was the chief guest at the event. Shri. Lakshmi Narayanan - Vice Chairman, Cognizant and Dr. Sunil Chopra, IBM Distinguished Professor of Operations Management and Information Systems, Kellogg School of Management, were the guests of honour.

MoU was signed between Great Lakes and Shri Ramachandra University at this notable event. This alliance will permit exchange of faculties and students between SRU and Great Lakes to work together in the areas of research in the Healthcare Management domain.



While congratulating Great Lakes on the 10 year milestone, Sh. Venu Srinivasan remarked, “Learning has undergone a major change in the last few years and will continue to do so. Hence, it’s imperative that educational institutes adapt to the concept of relevant education. We cannot continue with the concepts of 19<sup>th</sup> century in this digital world.” India needs a pipeline of entrepreneurs and I am positive that institutes like Great Lakes will support it, he added. Sh. Lakshmi Narayanan, appreciating the efforts of the institute said, “It’s no small achievement what Dr. Bala has been able to attain in just a decade. The students of Great Lakes have been an integral part of cognizant and I would in fact say they have built cognizant.”

Recalling his association with Great Lakes in the first two years of its inception, Dr. Sunil Chopra said, “The change I see here in the last eight years is stupendous. Dr. Bala is a man of enormous qualities and this institute is a proof of that.” I feel very proud that Great Lakes has completely stood up to its motto - Global Mindset, Indian Roots, he added.

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## *5<sup>th</sup> Annual Finance Conference hosted at Great Lakes*

The 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Finance Conference was organized in association with the Union Bank of India at Great Lakes, Chennai Campus on 27<sup>th</sup> January 2015.

The key note speaker was Dr. Shubhashis Gangopadhyay, Research Director, India Development Foundation and Dean of School of Humanities, Shiv Nadar University, and a special address was delivered by Mr. Vijay Prakash Usharia, Regional Head (Chennai) Union Bank of India.

Dr. Shubhashis Gangopadhyay spoke about the challenging times all the developing as well as developed countries are facing due to volatile situations in the market and the various factors responsible for it. Adding to this, Mr. Vijay Prakash Usharia mentioned, "Today, technology throws a major challenge to all the industries than any other. Keeping up with it and handling an issue is a major challenge, and finance managers should be equipped to do so".

Great Lakes received more than 50 papers from research scholars across India, out of which 16 papers were shortlisted to be presented at the conference. A research forum was thus provided to academic scholars, economists, financial analysts and financial consultants to present their work on emerging issues and future concerns in Banking and Finance areas.



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## Student Achievement

Gravitas 2015' the annual sports fest of Symbiosis Institute of Business Management, Pune was held from 23<sup>rd</sup>-23<sup>rd</sup> January 2015. We take great pride in announcing the following achievements:-

Simanta Baruah, Sreejit Janardhanan, Divyam Prakash and Smarak Dash from our college won the table tennis championship without dropping a single set. Top colleges from the country like SIBM, SIIB, SCMHRD, NITIE and NMIMS were part of this tournament.

Sreejit, Smarak and R. Vignesh also won the Football Skills Challenge where they were tested for various football skills like dribbling, long range goal shoot and hitting the cross bar.

The swimming relay team comprising of Chintan Bhuvu, Rohit Kashyap and Santhosh Krishnan secured the 2<sup>nd</sup> position.



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## *Alumni Achievement*

“*Day in the Life of an Entrepreneur*” is an online forum where women entrepreneurs at work in India share their stories and tell readers what their life is all about. Our alum Ms. Prachi Garg has been featured in the latest series where she talks about the genesis of her travel firm- **Ghoomophiro** that specializes in organizing corporate tours.

Link for complete article: <http://www.womensweb.in/2015/02/prachi-garg-ghoomophiro/>



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