

## **NYU Stern students visit Great Lakes to learn about Karma Yoga Leadership Experiential Project**



17<sup>th</sup> Jan: Cementing the relationship between New York University and Great Lakes Institute of Management, 24 students from Stern Business school of NYU visited Great Lakes on Jan 17<sup>th</sup>, 2014. The students were accompanied by Dr. Venkat Srivatsan, Professor in Stern Business School. Students from NYU come to India every year to enrich their knowledge, better their understanding and widen their perspectives of the socio-economic realities in India. They visited Great Lakes to understand the Karma Yoga Leadership Experiential Project, a unique medium for students to connect with ground realities and experientially learn transformational leadership.

Dr. Venkat Krishnan, Director, Yale-Great Lakes Center for Management Research welcomed the NYU members and briefed them about Leadership and Karma Yoga project of Great Lakes. He underlined the significance of the project which is carried out across 21 villages around the campus at Manamai, which has been adopted by Great Lakes for its Leadership Experiential Project. Following this, Great Lakes students shared their depth of experience, scope and challenges faced during the project and learnings that resulted from this year long initiative. Dr. Venkat Srivatsan appreciated this project and intended applying some of its best practices at New York University.

In order to provide a real time experience to the NYU students, Great Lakes had arranged for a visit to Natham Kariacheri, one of the villages covered under Karma Yoga project. The NYU students interacted with the villagers, tried to understand their life style. They learnt about organic farming and vermin-composting. The students also had fun time making *Rangolis*, learning to de-husk paddy, tractor rides etc. The students showed a lot of zeal in the activity. The village visit was concluded on a lighter note with the Indian traditional game of '*Matki-Phod*'.

Later in the campus, Dr. Bala thanked all the students from NYU and Dr. Venkat Srivatsan for showing interest in Karma Yoga project. He also thanked Dr. Venkat Krishnan for providing the students an opportunity to understand rural India.