



IIM Trichy launches Executive Doctoral Programme in Management

IIM Tiruchirappalli (IIM Trichy) e-inaugurated the first batch of **Executive Doctoral Programme in Management (EDPM)** in a ceremony held on 25th January 2020 (Monday). The occasion was graced by the Chief Guest **Dr. Sandhya Shekar, Former Founding CEO, IIT Madras Research Park, Advisor and Strategy Consultant.**

The event began with a virtual invocation and the lighting of the lamp, followed by a welcome address by **Prof. Deepak Kumar Srivastava, Dean (Academics)**. In his address, he welcomed the Chief Guest and attendees, and the participants of the programme, who he remarked were chosen out of more than a hundred applicants. He talked about this unique new programme which was introduced after multiple meetings and discussions with various stakeholders. He ended the address by saying that on completion of the programme, these candidates would be in a position to contribute a great deal in their career, and to the nation.

This was followed by an address by **Prof. Godwin Tennyson, Director (i/c) & Dean (Administration)** who reflected upon the institute's journey over the past 10 years since inception, and this being the fifth programme launched. The other programmes include the flagship Post Graduate Programme in Management (PGPM), Post Graduate Programme in Business Management (PGPBM), Doctoral Programme in Management (DPM), and the recently introduced Post Graduate Programme in Management - Human Resources (PGPM-HR). This particular programme (EDPM) is intended for senior working executives and aims to encourage knowledge sharing, dissemination and creation. He went on to introduce the chief guest, Dr. Sandhya Shekar, who he regarded as the most apt chief guest for this particular occasion, given her background in industry and academia, among other fields.

Dr. Sujeet Kumar Sharma, Chairperson (Doctoral Programme in Management & Research) gave an overview of the programme and the profile of the students. The programme includes 4 terms of rigorous course work of 36 credits, and 360 hours of teaching. He also mentioned that they followed a 3-tier rigorous screening process with interviews to select the candidates for the programme. A total of 11 candidates, hailing from various backgrounds from all functional areas of business management with an average experience of 18 years at leadership positions from public and private sector organizations have joined the programme. He finally stated that after graduating these executives will become established scholars in the corporate, government and academia.

In her address, Chief Guest **Dr. Sandhya Shekar** recounted her personal experiences of struggling to relate the theory that she learnt in class in the organisational context, and said that the learning process becomes enriching when you relate it with your background and work experience. She said that it is programmes such as this that strengthen the relationship between academic institutions and industry, and it is these students who will act as the conduit for this symbiotic relationship. She went on to say that the most important thing an institute should do, is to strive to keep the vibrancy and healthy and positive environment alive, because that is where research thrives. She concluded by reminding the students that the research process is as important as the end result.

This was followed by the Vote of Thanks and the event concluded with the National Anthem.