



11th ISDSI International Conference

Inauguration of Doctoral Colloquium and the Main Conference

IIM Tiruchirappalli (IIMT) inaugurated 11th ISDSI (Indian Subcontinent Decision Sciences Institute) Conference with a grand inaugural function.

The event began with a lamp-lighting ceremony where the Chief Guest, Prof. **Anil D. Sahasrabudhe** (*Chairman, All India Council for Technical Education, New Delhi*); Mr. **Jalaj Dani**, Chairman, Board of Governors IIMT; Dr. **Bhimaraya Metri**, Director, IIMT; Prof. **Jeet Gupta**, President DSI (Decision Sciences Institute, USA), Prof. **Ravi Kumar Jain**, Vice President, Asia-Pacific DSI; Prof. **Abhijit Digalwar**, President ISDSI; Prof. **Subhash Sarin**, Professor, Virginia Tech University, and Prof. **Godwin Tennyson**, Conference Chair lit a traditional lamp.

Dr. Metri who delivered the welcome address, spoke about Trichy as the arts and cultural capital of India. He mentioned that this conference is the biggest in the history of management education in India and mentioned that since IIM-Trichy shifted to its state of the art campus and has a huge location advantage, this conference is conducted in the best possible ecosystem. He also mentioned that this conference would be a benchmark for the other management institutes. He thanked AICTE for co-sponsoring this landmark event.

Prof. Sahasrabudhe congratulated the institute for this event and hoped that many more such events will be organized in future. He also highlighted the gap prevailing in the education system of India while giving a glimpse of the modern curriculum, the IIM Bill and its future prospects.

Prof. Jeet Gupta welcomed the Chief Guest and delegates on behalf of DSI while talking about its history. He thanked the delegates for making ISDSI the biggest regional DSI conference in the world. Since ISDSI reached the benchmark of 500 papers this year, Prof. Gupta addressed the delegates and implored that the next year's target should not be less than 900 papers coming not just from academicians but also from people with diverse backgrounds like practitioners and government representatives.

Mr. Jalaj Dani, in his address applauded the Government of India for passing the IIM Bill (2017) in both houses of the Parliament and stressed the importance of responsibility and accountability along with autonomy. He highlighted the importance of this conference by saying, "We live in a world which is data rich but poor in insights".

IIM Trichy was honoured by two prestigious awards during the event. The first one, the JGate ESS Forum Best Usage award, jointly awarded by INFLIBNET and Informatics was received by Dr. Metri on behalf of IIM Trichy. The second award, the Wiley Library Award for highest usage of Wiley Journals in IIM consortium (Tier II and III) was received by Dr. Ela, Librarian and Chief Knowledge Office, on behalf of IIM Trichy.

Dr. Godwin Tennyson, Conference Chair, proposed the vote of thanks.

An exhibition of traditional arts from Tamil Nadu was also inaugurated by Prof. Anil D. Sahasrabudhe. The event organized by Elixir, the CSR club of IIM Trichy, includes arts and crafts from various rural artists and NGOs. The collection includes bronze sculptures, coir artifacts, and traditional paintings among other items.

On Dec 27, Doctoral Colloquium was inaugurated by **Dr. E. Sankara Rao** (*Managing Director & CEO, IFCI Limited, New Delhi*). He stressed the need for research which is equally applicable to the industry. He urged the researchers to focus on the problems related to practice and help solve the real world problems rather than working in isolation.