

**Indian Institute of Management Tiruchirappalli**  
***Second Foundation Day Celebrations***  
**January 4, 2013**

**Events Conducted during the Day**

***1. Eye Donation Pledge Camp***

Elixir, the Social Responsibility Club of IIM Trichy, is one of the first formed student-run clubs of the institute. Right from its inception, it has been actively involved in social activities such as sapling plantation, blood donation, children welfare etc. As part of the second Foundation Day celebrations of IIM Trichy being held on 4<sup>th</sup> January, 2013, Elixir has come up with an important initiative, a one of its kind among premier educational institutes, ***Eye Donation Pledge Camp***, in collaboration with Joseph Eye Hospital, Trichy.

The Institute and members of Elixir are socially driven, always striving to bring about a positive change in the society. The eye donation pledge camp is one such initiative to show that management education is not just about working for the development of Corporate India; it is also about giving back to our society and working towards making it a better place for everyone to live in.

In India, there are more than 4.6 million people with corneal blindness, which is treated by corneal transplantation, a simple procedure, provided there is an eye donor available. However, it has become a herculean task to amass enough eye donors mostly due to the lack of awareness about eye donation programs and the ill-informed apprehensions associated with the same that have led to many people staying in the dark (pun intended). As future responsible citizens of the country, the students of IIM Trichy, led by Elixir, are taking a pledge to pioneer this movement among youngsters to shed inhibitions and show the right attitude and be a part in the effort to light up people's lives.

The milestone event was inaugurated by The Dean (Students) of NIT Trichy, Prof. RamPrasad along with Dr. Thanuja Britto, deputy director, rehabilitation centre, Joseph Eye Hospital.

Many students of IIM Trichy came forward to pledge their eyes for this noble cause.

IIM Trichy intends to keep up the tradition of organizing socially relevant activities through the club Elixir for many years to come.

***2. Panel Discussion***

A Panel Discussion on '*Financial Sector – Growth and Prospects in 2013*' happened at **4 pm**. The panel consists of

- Mr. Ananth Ramachandran, Managing Director, Standard Chartered Bank, Singapore
- Mr. Ambarish Datta, CEO, BSE Training Center, Mumbai
- Mr. A. V. Krishnan, Executive Director, BHEL, Trichy
- Mr. Sundaresan. A. S, Investment Director, Peepul Capital Advisors P Ltd., Chennai

The panel discussion began with the lighting of the ceremonial lamp. **Dr. Prafulla Agnihotri**, Director, IIM Trichy welcomed the gathering in his inimitable style. The audience included Mr. Sounder Rajan, Director, NIT Trichy, invitees, members of the press, faculty members and students. This was followed by an account of achievements of IIM Trichy students in the past year.

**Prof. V. Gopal**, Dean Academics, IIM Trichy took up the role of convener and moderator of the panel discussion. He introduced the theme of the discussion which was "Finance Sector - Growth and Prospect in 2013" by taking stock of the past fiscal year and the current trends. The format of the discussion was 20mins per panelist followed by summary by the moderator and a Q&A session with the audience at the end.

The first panelist to take stage was **Mr. A V Krishnan**. Coming from the manufacturing sector, he spoke of the capabilities of BHEL which produces 20,000 MW of power today and it caters to both public and private sector companies. He highlighted the rise of private sector companies in areas traditionally dominated by public sector companies. He drew parallels between national manufacturing policy and financial policy and spoke skeptically about achieving and sustaining the projected growth rates. As a solution he proposed flexibility to ensure that the need for sustainability of growth is met.

The second panelist to take stage was **Mr. Sunderasan**, Investment Director, Peepul Capital. He too analyzed the past fiscal year and its shortcomings and spoke optimistically about the year 2013. He spoke about the prospect of consolidated, better quality MBFCs if RBI mandates a minimum asset size. He predicted that organizations which could focus and target their efforts would attract capital and leverage from the banking sector and achieve success in 2013. He also expects greater demand in the MBFC sector spurred by the interest rate cuts by the RBI. On the equity side, for VC and PE industry he said 2013 will be an year of growth, consolidation and organized play. Therefore, organizations that can demonstrate performance will be entertained by the equity sector. He also mentioned that in 2013, organizations looking to raise capital will increase due to end of Government's policy-paralysis setting the right sentiment to invest and grow more. The ability of the SMEs to raise public capital would remain subdued according to Mr. Sunderasan but consumer-facing organizations would experience growth. He too emphasized about sustainable growth rather than bursts of growth leading to better valuations. He concluded by saying 2013 will be an year of performance and delivery focused organizations, and it will be an year to look forward to, due to better prevalent economic factors.

The third panelist to take stage was **Mr. Ambarish Datta**. He started by introducing the activities of BSE training institute which completed 24 years on 03-Jan-2013. He lauded SENSEX as the barometer or country's progress. His talk was a comparative study of the global scenario and the domestic markets. He highlighted sub-optimal situation if the global financial markets and the reduction in companies moving for IPOs: 97 in 2012-13 compared to 120 in 2011-12, but spoke hopefully for the coming fiscal year. He also touched upon the peculiar Indian obsession with gold which is the most illiquid asset to possess. Moving ahead, he spoke about the technology advancements in the BSE to reduce latency to 200ms. He said 2013 will be a year of FDI, disinvestments and Venture reforms was generally positive about the prospects for 2013. He concluded by mentioning that the challenges for the financial sector will be growth vs. Equity, growth vs. Sustainability and most importantly growth vs. Environmental sustainability.

The final panelist for the evening was **Dr. Ananth Ramachandran**. He was the most optimistic of the four and provided an investment banker's perspective. He spoke about the Euro Zone in 2012

and touted President Obama's second term to be similar to Bill Clinton's second term and will be a golden period for the US. In terms of global banking sectors, the American, Asian - specifically South East Asian banks are performing well compared to European banks. He moved on to an insightful peek into the world of investment banking and provided information useful for students looking to enter this field. He spoke about the surge in M&A activity in the last quarter of 2012 leading to a healthy financial year in 2013. He was of the opinion that US is on the mend, China spurred by change in power will grow along with Australia and South-east Asia. He termed Europe as a "laggard" and predicted it would fall behind the others in 2013. He highlighted the Syrian conflict and Iran situation as the challenges in the middle-east and African region. He claimed that in terms of investment rates, the situation was most favorable for growth and 2013 was the year of Equities and Equity Controlled Markets (ECM). Later He touched upon the issue most important to the students - the job situation in financial sector. He advised to temper expectations due to increase in capital requirements of banks leading to lesser returns and cost-cutting measures. According to him, the banks are returning to a back-to-basics approach to ride out this situation where it is customer-centric rather than deal-centric. This dichotomy between requirement of new blood and reducing costs might reduce hiring in the more glamorous areas of banking but it will continue to grow in the basic banking functions. He concluded on an optimistic note for the year 2013 despite the challenges that loom.

Prof. V. Gopal then moderated a Q&A session overflowing with questions by enthusiastic students and ended the panel discussion with his insightful round-up of the entire session.

### ***3. Cultural Programme***

Various events were performed by the students of IIM Tiruchirappalli. The events started at **7:00 pm**.

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