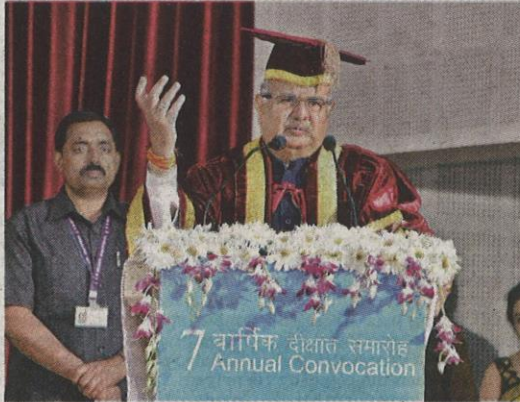


Skill devp necessary for India's economy: Sitharaman



- **Dr Raman emphasized on the optimum utilization of all energies towards a definite goal**
- **147 students get diploma, degrees at IIM-R convocation ceremony**

Raipur, Apr 10:

Defence Minister of India Nirmala Sitharaman while addressing the 7th Convocation Ceremony of The Indian Institute of Management, Raipur (IIM-R) Union Defense Minister

Nirmala Sitharaman said that Skill Development is necessary for India's economy and urged the young, well trained and imaginative minds of IIM Raipur to come forward in areas such as Public Administration and Local Village Reformation.

In her address as Chief Guest on Tuesday afternoon, she stated that in these challenging times where there is a churn at global level, there are a lot of conflicting ideologies. She cited how a socialist country like China is opening up its economy and countries like the US are becoming more and more protectionist.

IIM-R gave diploma and degrees to 147 students from the Post Graduate Program-2016-

Parth Sarthi Sahoo, shared his thoughts regarding his journey: "It was a great learning experience. The two years give you an opportunity to explore the uncharted territories, push your limits and most importantly- know more about yourself. Also, it feels great to have an excellent peer group and alumni base to interact and learn from."

Garima Bisht who received the Director's Gold Medal said that her stay at IIM Raipur was a journey of personality transformation. "Coming as a shy girl, these two years have actually made me a social person. Peer learning and healthy competition have encouraged me to always strive to be better, whether academically or in extracurricular activities." Yash Wardhan who was awarded the PGP Chairperson's Gold Medal expressed his views saying: "When I first came to IIM Raipur, I was a little disappointed and I'd never thought I'd like this place. Two years have passed and leaving this place has become difficult for me because doing an MBA taught me to be not just Masters of Consumer Behaviour, Marketing Communication but a Master who believes now that he has full control over his life. I think MBA should be made compulsory for all the professions." Jaya Gupta, who started in 2015, continued the programme after battling cancer and went on to receive the Gold Medal. She is a source of inspiration for all of us to keep going and achieving success in the face of hardship.

18 batch, 49 students from the Post Graduate Program-2015-17 batch, 10 students from the Post Graduate Program for

working executives-2016-18 batch and 8 students from the Fellow program in Management in the ceremony

held here.

The Guest of Honour Dr. Raman Singh told the students to be fearless. Quoting

from his experience of managing the State of Chhattisgarh, he enumerated his achievements in diverse spheres ranging from public distribution system, education and health-care. He advised the students not to be disappointed by failures but to analyse them and learn from them. He emphasized on the optimum utilization of all energies towards a definite goal and contribute to the development of the nation. Earlier, Prof. Bharat Bhasker, Director, IIM Raipur urged the students to dream, but also to take actions to make them possible.

In the Director's report, Prof. Bhasker highlighted the increase in the number of partner institutes making the

student exchange programme more robust and thus giving more students the opportunity of cross-cultural exposure this year.

The IIM Raipur convocation ceremony also saw gold medals being given away for scholastic performance. The Gold Medal for Overall Performance was awarded to Parth Sarthi Sahoo, while the BOG Chairperson's Gold Medal was awarded to Sai Dayitva Gaur. The Director's Gold Medal was awarded to Ms. Garima Bisht and the PGP Chairperson's Gold Medal was awarded to Yash Wardhan and Prateek Garg. The Gold Medal for PGPWE was awarded to Ms. Jaya Gupta.