

# Students asked to set their sights high

BL CLUB

Our Correspondent

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To scale greater heights in their careers, the youth need to imbibe behavioural virtues that would lead them to leadership in their chosen professions, said Mr T. N. Manoharan, Member, Board of Mahindra Satyam, Hyderabad, and former President of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India.

Speaking on 'Rearing your career' at the inaugural Business Line Club meeting in the city on Friday, he said the youth need to dream big in life and acquire the knowledge and skill sets demanded by the market.

He was addressing students of the Department of Business Administration at the Velammal College of Engineering and Technology in Viraganoor on the outskirts of the city. The event was sponsored by Tata Photon.

He said one should seek to excel in whatever one learns



Mr T.N. Manoharan, Member, Board of Mahindra Satyam, addressing a Business Line Club meeting at the Velammal College of Engineering and Technology, Madurai, on Friday. (From left) Mr M.V. Muthuramalingam, Chairman, Velammal Educational Trust; and Mr G. Ramprasad, CEO, Tata Teleservices, are also seen. — S. James

and does. The Indian population was young in comparison to other countries and the world would seek talent from here. As such, the youth had immense opportunities before them.

They should benchmark themselves against the best in

all their pursuits. Confidence in everything one did is necessary. One should always ask oneself, 'from here to where?' Only a sustained performance would keep one in the reckoning for a successful career, he said.

He further said bringing

dedication and devotion to the job results in value addition, and this is necessary. Delivering a special address earlier, Mr G. Ramprasad, CEO, Tata Teleservices, said technological change has brought in its wake both benefits and opportunities. The mobile revolution has elimi-

nated the problem of access in the rural areas and extended mobile applications have created more opportunities in trade. In the current scenario, one could not take one's job for granted as performance has become the focal point of evaluation. Change necessitates new skills and brings with it new trades and the youth should endeavour to learn and acquire those skills, he said. A contest in mobile lab is being planned to provide test the creative skills of the youth, he added.

Mr M.V. Muthuramalingam, Chairman, Velammal Trust, presided over the meeting. Dr S. Sevugapandian, Principal-in-Charge, welcomed the gathering and Dr C. Selvaraj, Director, MBA Department, introduced the guests. Mr K. Venugopal, Joint Editor, *The Hindu Business Line*, while proposing the vote of thanks, suggested that the youth should learn to enjoy what they did as that alone would bring the best in them.



# Students advised to acquire knowledge with skill sets

Special Correspondent

**MADURAI:** A combination of knowledge and skill sets would help a student in sustaining excellence in career, said T. N. Manoharan, former president, Chartered Accountants of India, on Friday.

Inaugurating the activities of 'The Hindu Business Line Club' in the region at Velammal College of Engineering and Technology here, Mr. Manoharan said that knowledge without skill sets would be useless. The Indian youth, he said, were capable of acquiring linguistic, managerial, professional and technical skills; and in future, the whole world would look at Indian talent in every walk of life.

## 'Ten commandments'

Explaining a set of 'ten commandments' to sustain a career, Mr. Manoharan advised the students to acquire knowledge with skill sets and benchmark themselves with

the best in the field. Students should also approach their task with confidence and remain competitive throughout their career. "Never live in the past glories," as only continuous performance would keep a person in the reckoning always. The students, he said, should combine competitiveness with dedication and devotion.

Perseverance, according to Mr. Manoharan, was a trait essential to develop a 'never quit' attitude. "Defeat is never a denial of success but deferment," he said, adding that the best way to answer one's critics was to produce results.

He advocated a sense of contentment in one's career, not in terms of aspirations, accomplishments and quest for excellence, but rewards and benefits. "Rewards should not be a benchmark of your service," he said, calling upon the students to develop humility as a hallmark of their personality. "Success should feed your responsib-

ility and not your ego."

Stressing that integrity was the need of the hour, Mr. Manoharan said, "You can reach the top through hard work but cannot stay there without integrity." He urged the students to show gratitude to all those who were responsible for their elevation in life.

In his presidential address, M. V. Muthuramalingam, chairman, Velammal Educational Trust, stressed that a degree alone would not fulfil students' expectations and they should read newspapers to equip themselves better.

G. Ramprasad, Chief Executive Officer, Tata Teleservices, described mobile telephony as a "very powerful force" in which most of human activities converged. Like all new technologies, it also had problems and opportunities. But mobile services had eliminated the problem of access in many remote villages. He appealed to the students to make the best use of opportunities, and said that

the objective of the *The Hindu* BL Club was to facilitate more informed decision-making among the youth. Tata Teleservices, Mr. Ramprasad said, had a participatory programme for students which enabled them to strengthen their talent and build a business as well.

## 'Enjoy what you do'

K. Venugopal, Joint Editor, *The Hindu Business Line*, said that knowledge without skill sets was an issue that confronted the country and employers found students lacking in soft skills. He added one more commandment to Mr. Manoharan's 'ten commandments' by asking the students to enjoy what they did. "When you enjoy what you do you will do it better."

Earlier, S. Sevugapandian, Principal (in charge), welcomed the participants.

T. Murali, Regional General Manager, *The Hindu*, Madurai, gave an introduction to the Club.