

'Innovation should be aimed at raising development index'

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LUCKNOW: The CEO Forum, a robust and vibrant body of top corporate honchos in the city, was re-activated at a workshop on 'Innovation and Entrepreneurship' conducted by the Indian Institute of Management (IIM Lucknow) and Singapore Management University-Singapore. The workshop was attended by 30 top management professionals from Lucknow.

Lauding the contribution of the CEO forum, IIM-L director Devi Singh said the forum has had a glorious past where the who's who of corporate sector had addressed the body at its earlier events. He said innovation alone can provide sustainable competitive advantage to the corporate sector in this cut-throat world.

Chairman of CEO forum and regional head of Tata



• The workshop on 'Innovation and Entrepreneurship' underway at IIM-L. HT PHOTO

Consultancy Services Jayant Krishna focused on the need to innovate service delivery in healthcare, education and skill development to improve India's dismal Human Development Index (HDI) rank of 136 among all nations. "While India's economy is the 10th largest, our per capita income rank is as low as 141 worldwide. All innovations in India must lead to an improvement in these indicators that

would result into an inclusive development otherwise we can never become a happy nation," he added.

Prof Rajendra Srivastava, provost and deputy president of Singapore Management University emphasised on the value of technology in driving innovations and elaborated on appropriate business models and leveraging brand platforms for innovations.

Prof Sushil Kumar of IIM Lucknow gave several interesting examples as to how one can learn innovative solutions from Mother Nature herself.

Prof Thomas Menkhoff, prof Desai Arcot Narasimhalu and prof Srinivas K Reddy of Singapore Management University also spoke at the workshop, while president of Lucknow Management Association RK Mittal summed up the deliberations and prof Sushil Kumar of IIM Lucknow proposed a vote of thanks.