

Ravi Kant emphasises need for adaptability

■ Staff Reporter

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INDIAN Institute of Management Raipur (IIM Raipur) proudly hosted Ravi Kant, Former CEO of Tata Motors and Board Member of Kone Elevators and Hawkins Cookers, for the third instalment of its prestigious IR Dialogue series.

The eminent speakersession at institute's campus focused on the compelling topic of 'Global Business Leadership: The Art of Leading from Back.'

Duringhislecture,RaviKant delvedintotheconceptofleading from the back, emphasising its distinction from traditional front-facing leadership. Hehighlightedtheimportance of contextual leadership, emphasising need for adaptability and quick response to changes in economic conditions and industry phases.

Acknowledging the historical context of leadership evolving from military norms, Ravi Kant noted that relatively young corporations must adapt to the current business landscape. He underscored the changing dynamics, citing the reduced stability of economic projections and the



Dignitaries sharing dais during the IIM Raipur's IR Dialogue.

increasing unpredictability, necessitating a shift from hierarchical to distributed organisational structures.

Sharing insights from his experiences, Ravi Kant addressed key personal and team leadership aspects, advocating for open-mindedness, ownership, and detachment. He emphasised the significance of trust in building long-term relationships and collaboration within a team.

In a panel discussion involving Prof. Navneet Bhatnagar, Prof. Satyasiba Das, and Mr. Ravi Kant explored the skills required for success in the global scenario of the coming decades. Ravi Kant emphasised the importance of visualising scenarios, understanding people, and leveraging their strengths. He shared examples

from his own experiences, highlighting the critical role of people and honesty in successful business ventures.

Prof Satyasiba Das reflected on the innate wisdom demonstrated by the guest, stating that true leadership cannot be taught but must be experienced. He challenged the conventional focus on increasing shareholder value, emphasising the need to prioritise stakeholders and find joy in work.

The session concluded with an engaging Q&A session, where students gained insights and knowledge about leadership from Ravi Kant's wealth of experience. Prof Navneet Bhatnagar extended heartfelt thanks to the leadership of IIM Raipur, faculty members, students, and the IRC student body for organising the event.