

## 'Put all into your venture'

### Azim Premji hands out an award at IIT-Gn

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Premji was delivering an address after handing out excellence awards for staff at the institute. He advised students to believe in their talent and self  
Wipro chairman Azim Premji tells IIT-Gn students what makes a successful entrepreneur

If you want to emerge as a successful entrepreneur, put your life's savings into your venture so that there is no turning back. This is what Wipro chairman, Azim Premji, told students of Indian Institute of Technology Gandhinagar (IIT-Gn) on Tuesday.

Premji was delivering an address after handing out excellence awards for staff at the institute. Sharing his life's experiences, Premji advised students that if they plan to becoming entrepreneurs, they should be determined and work very hard as it was not an easy task.

"Be sure that you have your skin in the game. Put your life's savings into it so that there is no turning back. But if you expect venture capital to fund 101% of the requirements then you will not succeed because you don't have your skin in the game," said Premji.

"A rupee earned is far more valuable than ten rupees found. You learn the value when you have to earn the value," he said also talking about striving for excellence, confidence and social commitment.

He advised students to believe in their talent and self. If one doesn't believe in oneself how will others? "If you don't have confidence in yourself, in your beliefs and in some of your key plans, how can you expect others to have confidence in you. Be unfailing, consistent and tenacious. Strive for excellence in all the things you do, whether big or small. You have to be able to consistently practice excellence," he said.

As he concluded his talk, he said it was very important for people in leadership positions to have social commitment.

"You have to appreciate that you are functioning as part of society. You have to appreciate that we have 1.2 billion people in our country and that anywhere from 30 to 70 per cent of the people, depending upon definitions, are below the poverty line," he added.

The award function was attended by the director, Dr Sudhir K Jain, faculty members and staff members of the institute.

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