

**Condolence Meeting in Memory of Dr. Manmohan Singh, President, Board of Trustees,  
of the Institute from 1992-2021**

A condolence meeting was held in memory of Dr. Manmohan Singh at the Institute of Economic Growth (IEG) at 4 p.m., December 30, 2024, in the V.K.R.V. Rao Hall. In attendance were the Director, IEG, Nitin Desai, Member, Board of Trustees, IEG, and members of the Faculty and Staff, IEG. They were joined by former faculty of the Institute online from across the country.

The meeting commenced with introductory remarks by Prof. Chetan Ghate, Director, IEG, followed by a minute of silence observed by all present at the meeting.

Those present spoke of Dr. Singh's work as a bureaucrat, academic and statesman, his vision and contributions to Indian economic policy, the Indian economic reforms of the 1990s and the tangible changes effected on the ground.

Dr. Singh had a long career with the Government of India. He played important roles in his capacity as Chief Economic Advisor in the Finance Ministry (1972-1976), RBI Governor (1982-1985), the Planning Commission (1980-1982; 1985-1987) and Finance Minister in the P.V. Narasimha Rao government (1991-1996), during which time there were tectonic shifts in economic policy—deregulation, reduction in tariffs, emphasis on foreign direct investment, changes in licensing, exchange rate policy, a slew of changes marking a shift to a market-oriented economy, and the opening up of the Indian economy to the world. His tenure as Prime Minister (2004-2014) also saw important policy changes—the India-US nuclear deal marked a shift in diplomatic ties and India's position in the global system.

Those present recalled Dr. Singh's personality and their interactions with him. Many faculty members were able to interact with Dr. Singh through his long involvement with the Institute, initially as the Chairman of the Board (1972-1982), and then as President of the IEG Society (1992-2021). On the eve of IEG's Golden Jubilee, celebrated on 15 December 2007, Dr. Singh released a book entitled "IEG at Fifty". Those who spoke at the meeting recalled his humility, generosity of spirit, engagement with people on an equal plane, commitment to engaging with differing ideas, and genuine interest in and support of different kinds of research being done at

the Institute. His approachability and careful attention to people—including those he did not know personally—and details greatly touched those who interacted with him.

The meeting was concluded with those present laying petals at the photo of Dr. Singh, placed in the hall. The IEG community expresses its deepest condolences to the family of Dr. Singh, and its great mourning at his loss.

Director, IEG