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From the Editorial Board

Coming together is a beginning.

Keeping together is progress.

Working together is success.

And with these lines, we extend the PGP-14 batch a warm welcome to the SPM family.

Welcome aboard ! The SPM experience is one you are going to vouch for, in the days to come.

The PGP-13, in turn gets equipped to carry forward the legacy left by their senior batch. Resuming studies after two months of Industry experience has changed the approach to classroom teachings, abridging it to practical implications and carved industry ready professionals out of keen students.

In this edition, we have included the Reflections from Summer Internship Programme 2013, which encompasses a couple of internship experiences of SPMites.

This issue has articles on:

India's standing on Renewable Energy Country Attractive Index
Zou Chuqu Strategy in Augmenting Oil Supplies: Is it Sustainable?
Leadership at Infosys
Capitalism, Communism and Democracy (CCD)
RBI and Inflation

Our regular segments- Campus Buzz and Faculty Foyer have been featured, with extensive coverage and reinforced content.

In Voice your opinion, we have again highlighted a management topic and created a platform for a novel outlook to an existing issue.

This newsletter offers a platform for students to express their experiences and views. We hope that it drives this process of partaking of knowledge and becomes a name to reckon with.

Director's Message

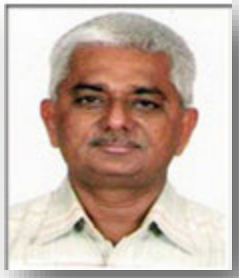
A tree full of flowers looks more beautiful when they blossom. More flowers blossoming every season add to the tree's glory and beauty. The new ones always find their place and enrich the value of the tree. In a similar fashion when a new batch of students comes up at an institute like School of Petroleum Management – Gandhinagar; with bigger dreams than ever and greater will power to achieve those, it becomes even more important to continue enhanced efforts to deliver the same quality and value that has been imparted so far at the institute and improve upon it.

With the PGP14 joining at SPM-PDPU, our expectation in terms of what they can contribute to the overall development of the Institute at large and them selves at a micro level is both crucial and important. The journey for PGP14 batch at SPM-PDPU began with interesting and learning-orientated activities for students that included expert sessions by industry professionals, senior academicians and researchers under the extended induction program. Starting with the expertly conducted Ice-Breaking session by Prof Satish Pandey, after a brief formal opening ceremony, students were offered orientation to SPM-PDPU resources at Library and IT Section. The program also included extended interactions with Alumni to act as the bridge between the past and the future. A day long creativity workshop and sessions on Goal Setting and Leadership; and an elaborate set of sessions on principles and functions of management saw professionals from the world of advertising and creativity, managing directors of corporate and academic organizations and directors of PSUs and business schools sharing their knowledge and wisdom accumulated over decades of hands on experience in their own domains of expertise. Experts delivered and deliberated on modern day management education, the petroleum and power sector, oil and gas value chain etc. A flavor of social responsibility of managers was added through sessions on society and professional managers and social & developmental services in international perspective. Elaborate experiential learning through case analysis and industrial visits to places as diverse as the Narmada Sardar Sarovar Dam, Charanka Solar Park and Sabarmati Ashram added great value for the budding professionals.

The exhaustive and ambitious induction program ended with a well deserved dinner hosted by the beloved Chairperson – Standing Committee PDPU along with detailed deliberations on hopes and expectations from the SPM-PDPU.

Thus the new academic year begins with a lot of promises and a lot of hopes. I wish the new batch all the very best in their future endeavors at SPM and beyond. I hope that their contribution to the School in every way shall prove to be mutually beneficial and help them in their overall development. My faculty colleagues join me in assuring the student community that no effort shall be spared to offer the best of learning environment and opportunity at SPM-PDPU.

Arigato Gozaimas!



Dr. Hemant Trivedi

Director,

School of Petroleum Management, PDPU,

Gandhinagar (Gujarat)

Energy and Infrastructure World

India on RECAI

Darshit Paun, PGP13

While there has been a continuous upsurge in the global demand for energy, the conventional energy resources has been limited. To cater to the needs of growing demands of energy, dependency on renewables has to be increased, which also takes care of the tremendous amount of pollution that is created by the use of conventional energy sources. While there is a need to promote the renewables, India slipped from 4th position in February 2012 to 8th position in August 2013, on Renewable Energy Country Attractive Index, a survey conducted by global consultancy giant EY. The statistics released by BNEF (Bloomberg New Energy Finance) do support the above drawn conclusion as the investment in the 1st and 2nd quarter of 2013 were approx. $1407 million and $1375 million respectively. It was lower by 29% and 27% as compared to the same in 1st and 2nd quarter of 2012.

The investment patterns again revived in the 3rd and 4th quarter of FY13 due to the reinstatement of the generation based incentives for wind power, a good response for the 2nd phase auctions of National Solar mission and plans to open up similar missions in other renewable sector as well. Overall, the investment renewable energy sector in India grew around 2.6% in 2013, with $7.8 billion invested in 2013 as compared to $7.6 billion in 2012.

The following are the factors that affected India's rankings on the Renewable Energy Country Attractive Index.

- Financing

India is a developing country where higher inflationary trends coupled with higher interest rates to control them, set the benchmark interest rates much higher than a developed country. Adding the uncertainty prevailing around the currency rate makes the cost of debt much higher. Another problem in financing the renewable energy projects is increasing debts of Power sector particularly the distribution companies. The amount of loans that has been already lent out to these companies is so high that the banks are unable to lend out any more money into this sector. High cost of capital coupled with higher risks, weak bond markets and unavailability of funds sums up the financing hurdles against the growth in renewables.

- Improper implementation of REC Market (Renewable Energy Certificates).

On one hand 22 out of 29 state DISCOMS were unable to achieve their RPO (Renewable Power Obligations) while on the other hand the renewable energy producers prefer FiT (Feed in Tariff) mechanism over RECs creating an unfavourable scenario for renewable energy markets. Moreover, the laws for RPO enforcements are yet not in place to enforce a penalty on the power companies in the event of not being able to achieve RPO obligations. When it comes to setting up long term targets to fulfil RPO requirements only 10 out of 26 states have defined long term goals showing that the policy execution by states is not in line with the long term target of achieving 20% electricity production through renewable energy set by CERC.

This article was published in The Indian Economist
http://theindianeconomist.com/india-recai/

Generation based Incentive Scheme for wind power

In September 2013, Indian government gave a nod to ministry of new and renewable energy to extend the generation based incentives mechanism to the wind power producers. Under this scheme, the wind power producers will get 50 paise per unit of electricity that they feed into the grid for a period of 4 to 10 years with a maximum disbursement of 25 lakh per MW in the first 4 years. The scheme is applicable for the entire 12th five year plan where the government aims to achieve a humongous 15,000 MW capacity from wind power. Since the cost per unit of wind power produced is higher than the same produced in a coal based power plant, the generation based incentives must make investments in wind power attractive.

- Phase 2 of JNNSM

The phase 2 of JNNSM (Jawaharlal Nehru National Solar Mission) was auctioned for 750 MW photovoltaic licenses in the last quarter of FY13. The bidding received an overwhelming response from the local as well as foreign investors. The bidding conducted in 2 parts, 375 MW under the domestic category wherein the investors would have to use indigenous manufactured equipment. While the other part for 375 MW was under open category wherein there was no such restriction. With around 68 bids for 122 projects, and the government set to provide as much as 1800 crore in form of various incentives, the renewable energy sector particularly solar energy has gained pace in attracting investments.

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Zou Chuqu Strategy in Augmenting Oil Supplies: Is it Sustainable?

Manish Vaid*

China's National Oil Companies are securing oil assets abroad. This 'Zou Chuqu' or 'Going Out' strategy is the result of domestic constraints in hydrocarbon sector, such as lower reserves-to-production ratios, aging oil fields and peaking domestic oil production. Is 'Zou Chuqu' a good long-term strategy or should China reduce its crude oil dependency with a clear articulated shift towards unconventional energy sources?

There has been a serious concern among some experts that the Chinese National Oil Companies (NOCs) through their overseas investments are "locking up" oil supplies and removing them from the global market. To examine this, the International Energy Agency (IEA) has assessed motivations and strategies of the NOCs and the relationship between them and the Chinese Government which is often believed to be a guiding force behind such ventures.

However, in recent times there have been equal concerns and questions raised on China's so called 'going out' (Zou Chuqu) strategy by the country's policy makers. China's Tenth Five Year Plan (FYP) adopted new measures to encourage overseas investments including that of hydrocarbon assets, whereas it's successive FYPs (Eleventh and Twelfth) cautioned China in continuing with this policy, as the same had started to slow down its economic growth.

China's increased energy consumption is the result of its rapid industrialisation and urbanisation which are geared to increase its economic growth rates that averaged 10 per cent during the last 30 years. It continues to hunt for resources overseas, to bridge its demand-supply gap of resources.

China's Intensifying Energy Imports

China became one of the largest energy consumers in the world after it had overtaken the US in 2010. Its dominance over the energy demand of the Asian region is expected to continue till 2020, when India could take over China, according to the International Energy Agency (IEA's) World Energy Outlook (WEO) 2013. Furthermore, according to WEO's Special Report's 'Southeast Asia Energy Outlook', China is going to become the largest oil importing country in the world by 2020.

China's economic boom resulted in oil demands that went beyond its production capacity and made this country increasingly dependent on foreign oil assets. China became a net oil importer in 1993 and has been a net crude importer since 1996. Recent increase in China's energy consumption and its increased dependency on foreign hydrocarbon assets is the result of the global economic crisis and civilian unrest in many parts of the Middle East and North Africa in the early 2011.

These reasons have further prompted China to diversify its energy imports, and particularly rebalance its crude procurement, which was heavily inclined towards the Middle East and Africa constituting 50 per cent and 24 per cent of its total crude imports respectively. Therefore, to feed the ever increasing energy intensive manufacturing sector and to support its resultant economic activities, China went global. This has not only helped China in economic growth but has also served its countrymen with its rising energy needs. But how has China's 'going out' strategy evolved?

*Manish Vaid is an alumnus of SPM-PDPU

This article was published in India China chronicle

Evolving 'Going Out' Strategy

To satiate its consumer demand as well as that of the world for Chinese manufactured goods, China has been investing heavily on energy-intensive raw materials, infrastructure and buildings. It is grappling with capacity shortages resulting in greater demand-supply gap of vital commodities. Grave environment concerns is prompting China to adopt 'go abroad' strategy, despite difficult business conditions.

BP Energy Outlook 2035 projects the growth of China's oil import dependence from 57 per cent in 2012 to 76 per cent, while its gas dependence could increase from 25 per cent to 41 per cent. This outlook further projects that China will overtake the US as world's largest oil consumer by 2027 and world's second largest gas consumer by 2025.

Chinese NOCs started to look at outside world around the time it became the net oil importer in 1993, for reasons such as domestic constraints in hydrocarbon sector, ranging from aging oil fields, lower reserves-to production rations and peaking of domestic oil production. Initially, these NOCs went solo in the quest for securing oil assets abroad after being given cold shoulder by their own government, which instead was concerned with falling domestic oil production. Chinese NOCs thus went ahead to invest in Peru in 1992 and in Sudan in 1996, without acknowledging their government. But Chinese leaders who were striving hard to boost domestic resource production soon realised the importance of overseas investment. As a consequence they came up with a series of policy changes, which underscored the importance of resource internationalisation.

Hence, China's endeavor from 1990s to 2002, to internationalise its hydrocarbon business, faced severe bottlenecks largely due to lack of exposure to this risk prone business. The Chinese NOCs sans government support tried to develop good relations with the host countries.

Chinese NOCs, now get full-fledged support of its government in its overseas endeavors. Under the aegis of the Chinese government, many state actors helped these companies in going outside.

'Going Out' Strategy and State Actors Involved

Though the responsibility of making and implementing

of energy policy in China rests on a number of different bodies at national and local levels, its 'going out' strategy is formulated through the State-owned Assets Supervision and Administration Commission (SASAC), the Ministry of Commerce (MOFCOM) and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MOFA). All these state actors including those involved in energy policy are working on the direction of the State Council, China's highest governing body.

While SASAC is largely concerned with growth and profit of Chinese NOCs, MOFCOM aids outward-bound investment. MOFA, however, plays a critical role in diplomatic engagements of these Chinese NOCs overseas.

Besides these state actors, overseas venturing of the Chinese NOCs would not have been facilitated to this extent if they had failed to receive appropriate financing. This job is done well by two renowned banks namely the Export- Import Bank of China (EXIM Bank) and China Development Bank (CDB). EXIM Bank oversees the country's concessional loans while providing export credits for commercial undertakings overseas, particularly for infrastructure development. CDB on the other hand provides inexpensive loans to state-owned companies seeking to make large natural resource investments overseas. Chinese Investment Corporation, the country's sovereign wealth fund also takes part in buying stakes in foreign resource companies.

Therefore, China, which provides three types of economic assistance to the countries with which NOCs are doing business, MOFCOM is in charge of two of such kinds of assistance, namely, allocating grants and providing interest free loans while EXIM Bank is assigned to provide concessional loan.

In the scheme of things the role of Communist Party of China in the activities of state owned enterprises cannot be ruled out as its members head the NOCs, while shaping China's resource acquisition strategy.

'Infrastructure deals' and 'loan for oil and gas deals' are other means for overseas investment. China has already combined resource investment with infrastructure development in many countries like Latin America, Africa and Southeast Asia, and it has been appreciated by their governments. On the other hand Chinese NOCs have already signed loan for oil and gas deals in nine countries, namely, Angola, Bolivia, Brazil, Ecuador, Ghana, Kazakhstan, Russia, Turkmenistan and Venezuela.

Question of Rebalancing Chinese Economy

Chinese economy, which is energy intensive and inclined more towards manufacturing, is now witnessing an intense debate on curbing its growing energy consumption while decreasing its oil import dependency. Though, the concerns about China "locking up" oil supplies and removing them from the global market has been allayed by IEA's study in 2011.

China's soaring energy demand due to extraordinary economic growth has become a major stumbling block in balancing its economy and its future increase in oil consumption. Imports puts this country on a high risk. Oil consumptions eventually impacts the economy and energy emission goals severely. Interestingly, China's communist leaders, who till now have advocated for the 'going out' strategy are now concerned about the same and have cited this as a probable strategic weakness of the future.

The realisation of this fact has already been noted in the previous two Five Year Plans as aforementioned. The Eleventh Five Year Plan, for instance was aimed to balance the Chinese economy by curbing both exports and investments which were both energy and mineral intensive and focused more on the service sector. But China clearly missed those targets and therefore reworked the strategy to boost personal consumption. It also set a target of increasing service sector contribution to GDP by four percentage points by 43 per cent to 47 per cent in its Twelfth Five Year Plan, thereby providing a significant shift from manufacturing economy to service economy.

But despite these targets set by respective Five Year Plans, projections made by agencies like International Energy Agency and BP Statistical Outlook 2035 portrays an awry picture for the Chinese economy.

What Should China Do?

Hence, it becomes extremely important for Chinese policy makers to eventually strive hard to balance its economy in a way that is more tilted towards service sector and less inclined towards investments and export, a major factor for China's energy intensive economy.

China should go all out to curb down its crude oil dependency with a clear articulated shift towards unconventional energy like shale gas and renewable energy through structured indigenous research and development approach which can optimise the use of its robust human capital through education, skill development and training.

China would be doing well if it also intensifies its efforts in reshaping its Mergers and Acquisition strategies in a way which can provide Chinese companies with an access to gain the technological know-how and operations management, as they have been doing in case of shale gas while tying up with the US companies. This would be of immense help for China in dealing with technological challenges in their own country, thereby increasing the prospects of their own unconventional energy resources which are estimated to be in abundance, as estimated by the IEA. Innovation besides technological expertise will prompt China to do away with its 'business as usual' approach in dealing with its energy insecurity and making its development efforts more sustainable.

Business world

Why do we care so much about Infosys?

Siddhartha Bhatnagar, PGP13

Few of the headlines below that grappled the news recently:--

-Infosys shares fall as top executive quits (Times of India)

-Infosys crisis pulls market down to largest intra-day fall in 4 months (Financial Express)

-The Infosys Leadership Crisis (Business World)

-Sensex sheds 322 points; Infosys top loser on Srinivas exit (live mint)

-Clients query Infosys on top exits, rising attrition (Business Standard)

Infosys, once an IT bellwether is losing all its charm. The company which loved to be in headlines for all good reasons for more than 2 decades is now losing its torch bearers one after another. It saw 12 high profile exits in a year. This has raised eyebrows of its stakeholders. But before going ahead, I wonder what makes this company so special? Why it is that a drift from the company expectations become next day headlines in all dailies?

A dream of genius entrepreneurs and 7 middle class common people who were able to create a mansion of mammoth mega structure coliseum which not only drew attention from peers but also cross sector globally. Foundation of Infosys was different as it did not have a backing like its key competitors i.e. Wipro, TCS, Tech Mahindra etc. It was a mere dream and belief of a few common men which today employs more than 1,50,000 employees. This belief connects the common man with the ideology what it has achieved over the years. Its lush green sprawling campus in Bangalore, Mysore, Chennai, Pune, Bhubaneswar, Chandigarh, Jaipur are already landscapes. It is the only IT Company which has CISF cover in three of its development centers which clearly depicts the position of Infosys in the Indian economy. Respect and ethics it has earned till date has also played its part in taking the cherry position of huge IT cake. It introduced a Global Delivery Model which led to the phenomena of new IT industry. Cherishing the Old British Telecom case where Infosys deducted its contractual fee just because it could not deliver service to the client on time was one of the highlights in 90's and brought a new trend in this growing industry. What led this organization to be so much in news these few months?

Hunt for the new CEO began six months ago. This will be a historical move because the company will witness a non-founder for the first time to be its boss. Similar to a two sides of coin, the question arose whether Infosys should pick its new boss from the organization or from outside? Infosys hired three global executive search agencies i.e. Hedrick & Struggles, Egon Zehnder and Russell Reynolds to submit a feasibility study. This activity raised questions as the Organization had to approach other institutions and depicted that it does not believe in the capability of its own employees. Infosys Leadership Institute (ILI) was built in 2001

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http://www.ideasmakemarket.com/2014/06/why-do-we-care-so-much-about-infosys.html

with a vision to be a globally recognized institution that nurtures leaders and advances the field of leadership development. This activity has raised serious questions on the ability of the loyal employees and sent a wrong signal to their morale which is already facing the highest attrition rate of the sector at 18.6%.

Internal recruitment provides advantages such as potential employee is familiar with internal culture and business operations; Organization understands the strengths and weaknesses of candidates, it sends a strong signal to its workforce as it lifts up morale of the employees. External recruitment injects new ideas and thought process in the already build up institution, provides higher degree of options as Organization can hire global agencies to fit candidates. It allows a company to target the key players that may make its competition successful.

The entire rumors ended as Infosys announced Vishal Sikka, former CTO of SAP, as the chief executive officer and managing director of the company. Executive chairman N R Narayana Murthy and his son Rohan Murty will leave the company by October, almost four years ahead of Murthy's designated term. Mr. Murthy did try to bring back the drenched ship which was losing confidence of shareholders, investors and all stakeholders.

Big Question now arises whether Vishal Sikka could provide "vikas" to Infosys? How much time Infosys will take to bounce back after organization restructuring?

Time will be the master in deciding the course of this entangled build up. Everyone wants this company which is facing challenges to come out stronger, perform to claim accolades and win the heart of people. We love to make a mockery of events laughing on the leadership crisis and comparing it with Indian National Congress which is also facing the similar conundrum, but somewhere inside our hearts we want the company to perform and deliver.

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CCD: It's not a coffee shop

Muzaffar Waris, PGP13

Yes, I am not joking. The CCD in my topic is not the coffee shop (Cafe Coffee Day); it's rather an acronym for Capitalism, Communism and Democracy. In today's every changing world we don't have the time to realize the events happened or the event which lead to where we stand today. We just accept the situation we are at and think that this is the best possible situation that we could ever land upon in our lives. But let's rewind a little and think about what the world is and how it has led to be the place it actually is and what it would have been if not for the events in history.

Let's start with the first "C" that is Capitalism. As defined by many economists it stands for the investment of money by private owner in innovative ideas for the sole purpose of making profit for themselves. Now as many of us might recollect Capitalism didn't become the buzz word until the 19th century but it was actually well explained by one of the first economist, "Adam Smith" who explained the idea of introducing the concept of free market and he referred to it as "The Invisible Hand". Sorry to disappoint all the readers but there is nothing like the invisible hand in the world (If there was any, no bank in the world would be safe). It is rather a concept which the economist put forwards which explained how if the market was allowed to run freely without anyone's interruption and everyone was allowed to follow their ideas of interest the overall economy and the market will benefit from this phenomenon. The basic funda behind this concept was that everyone works for their own benefit and this collective individualistic search for betterment will lead to a situation of growth and innovative ideas and this way others can also get involved in the growth wagon. Let me give you an example, suppose India is playing a cricket match against Pakistan and India is chasing a huge total and suppose player X (I won't name anyone, because when it comes to cricket people forget everything) is very selfish player and all he wants to do is score centuries so that he becomes famous. Player X is not that much concerned with his countries victory but he is concerned that he plays well so according to Adam Smith he will work for the betterment of his own, and in this case it is scoring lots of runs. What this does in the long run is that it indirectly helps his country win the match because in pursuing his self interest of scoring runs he has actually helped India win a difficult match. This is pretty much what economists explain as Capitalism. Capitalism is what led people in depression ridden Europe to find new haven in the USA. Because they believed it was the place which supported capitalism and it seemed the only solution.

Capitalism is what made USA what it is, the sprawling city of New York and those hustling lanes of Wall Street are nothing but product of capitalism. It was as if capitalism was the solution that the world was waiting for since a long time. But the real world is no fairy tale and the reality soon came to the forefront, the problem with capitalism and its concept of leaving the market free was not full proof. Capitalism did create wealth but it also created inequality as Adam smith had predicted and with inequality came injustice and with injustice came economic divide. As there was no single entity looking over the rise of capitalism no one could prevent its sudden impact when on 24 October 1929, the NYSE crashed and the world plunged into the Great Depression.

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With all the years of prosperity no one cared from where the money came into the economy but the sudden jolt of market crash and speculation created a situation which lead not only to world war, but also had shaken the faith on capitalism. People now wanted something which was secure and different and this gave rise to powers of Nazi's and the erstwhile USSR. After the pathos of world war the world saw one of the biggest competitors of Capitalism and that was the path of "Communism".

Communism as defined by many is a classless, moneyless, and stateless social order structured upon common means of ownership. Marx advocated these ideas as the solution of the problem created by capitalism and ending the monarchy of Capitalism in the textbooks of economics. Communism at first appealed to a lot of people who were disturbed and frustrated by the unequal distribution of wealth in the world, it acted as a plan suited more to their needs. People started believing that with communism they will get the equal share of the pie and this will lead to better prosperity especially among undeveloped countries which were since ages devoid of the wealth created by capitalism. Hence the so called "Cold war" raged on for 50 years, if I were to think of it the cold war was not actually a war between two nations, it was the war between two ideas and their existence and the test of which provided better economic model of growth in the lives of people. USA with its hard core ideas of Capitalism collided head on with the Communist minded USSR, this war went on till in the early 1990's the soviets had to raise the white flag or should I say Communism as an ideas surrendered to the better idea of Capitalism (I am not saying the best because it had its flaws but still better than Communism).

The reason why Communism failed was very simple actually, what communism promoted was common welfare and sharing of property, wealth and rights. Thus my goods are your goods and my house is your house. Let's go back to the example of the cricket we gave earlier, if capitalistic mindset of the Indian batsmen was replaced by a newer Communistic mind, all the batsmen in the Indian cricket team will lose the incentive to score runs because as communism advocates the profits, the prize and the fame everybody desperately needed (and this was the thing which drove Mr X to score all those runs) will vanish and nobody will have the incentive to do better than the other and this will inherently make the team less competitive and hence much lesser chance of winning the game. Thus we can see that communism extinguished the spark of entrepreneurship that guided the world throughout the beginning of the 20th century and led to so much of wealth creation.

Thus the world again accepted the idea of Capitalism but this time it was sugar covered with the coating of Globalisation. And here is where "D" of the acronym comes from: Democracy. With

Globalisation the world became smaller and more accessible to each other. The mixture of Capitalism and Globalisation gave rise to a new term called "Capitalisation". The world was now the oyster of anyone who had an innovative idea and could reach out to the global world, but as nothing is perfect there was a flaw in this design too. With globalisation many of the multinational company began to dictate terms to underdeveloped countries and once again the cycle of non equality started. Today most of the underdeveloped countries of Africa are still untouched by the prosperity of the west and this can only be removed if we think of Global Democracy as the right of each and every one of us. The IMF's and the World Bank's should not discriminate against any country rather it should think of the world as a whole and its countries as a single economy working in a democratic society.

If we can achieve that goal then only each and every one of us in the world can actually sit and enjoy a cup of coffee in CCD.

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RBI and Inflation: The chase begins

Jignesh Trivedi, PGP13

RBI on 12th September 2013 decided to constitute an Expert Committee to examine the current monetary policy framework and to recommend what needs to be done to revise and strengthen it with a view to making it transparent and predictable. The committee will be chaired by Dr. Urjit Patel, Deputy Governor, RBI and many other members.

The main objectives for the committee will be to review the objectives and conduct of monetary policy in a globalised and highly inter-connected environment, to recommend an appropriate nominal anchor for the conduct of monetary policy, to identify regulatory, fiscal and other impediments to monetary policy transmission, and recommend measures and institutional pre-conditions to improve transmission across

financial market segments and to the broader economy etc.

To begin with there are multiple indicator available in order to frame the monetary policy of any country. These multiple indicators are many like growth, employment rate, inflation and exchange rate.

The committee appointed by RBI gave suggestion to solely focus on CPI and not on any other indicator. There are many reasons for choosing the CPI as nominal anchor for monetary policy. One of the reasons is that many countries in the world are now choosing this indicator as the base for their monetary policy but India and China. It is easy to track the CPI and even so called 'AAM AADMI" can also relate the RBI's monetary policy decision to increase or decrease the rate w.r.t CPI number. But the larger question is still how efficient is the inflation targeting for country like India?

There is always trade-off in keeping balance between growth prospects and inflation target. Supply side bottlenecks, fiscal profligacy, in-efficient government policy and wider reach of intermediaries in agriculture cause inflation in India a more complex no. to interpret and handle. These factors that contribute the most to inflation are out of the reach of RBI governor. Generally good monsoon can ease the inflation pressure more than any REPO rate cut can. Moreover it is observed that onset of winter eases and summer heats up the inflation pressure.

Now with these recommendations from Urjit Patel committee Repo rate hike is the only tool that RBI can use to tame the inflation though it will hurt the growth prospects in India. In simple term:

Increase in repo rate will cause bank to borrow less from RBI and this increase in repo will pass on to customer by increasing interest rates. Now loans will be more costly and only businesses in dire need of money go for the loans from the bank. This will further affect the business growth. This will ultimately affect the employment rate and income level of the people. It will eventually lead to less demand. So now supplier will reduce the price to attract the more sales and inflationary pressure will be eased. So there is always trade-off between maintaining growth and controlling inflation.

Right now India is at the stage of low growth and high inflation. It means targeting CPI only and linking it with Repo rate may eventually worsen the growth prospects for India. No doubt inflation need to be controlled as it is eroding the purchasing power of people- especially lower middle class people and lower class people- and it is also affecting the demand side.

Food and fuel prices have weightage of 57% in the CPI. Therefore, for overall CPI to reach the targeted levels of 4% +/- 2%, this component has to come down, else it will require a dramatic fall in core (or non-food and fuel) inflation. For the CPI to hit target level of 6%, when food and fuel inflation hovers around 10%, core inflation has to go down to 0.7%. That will require a massive nine percentage point increase in the policy rate, a huge increase. And, of course, it will paralyze the economy. The concerns about high and persistent CPI inflation can be addressed by the supply-side measures along with the introduction of CPI-inflation linked financial instruments that would act as inflation hedges.

Recently RBI governor raise one complex issue: According to him Indian parliament should fix the inflation no. (i.e. 4% or 5% inflation) and task should be given to RBI to chase this. What more interesting is that Finance minister P. Chidambaram is also supporting the stand taken by RBI governor. As we have all witnessed minimal discussion of our parliamentarians on important issues like land acquisition bill, Telengana bill and many other important issues and the fact that Indian parliament is struck with low productivity and high absenteeism of our parliamentarians, how can this important issue be tackled by them. And there is also chance that political party in power can use populist measure to tackle this Inflation problem. Let's wait for the decision by government on this issue.

But for now, RBI governor has a huge task of maintaining the growth numbers with adequate inflation to make Indian economy work efficiently. And this task do require the co-ordination from government as without effective fiscal policy whatever RBI do, inflation of 4-6% will only be a dream no. for the governor of RBI.

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GEE - Global Enterprise Experience

The Global Enterprise Experience is an international business competition that develops skills in managing across cultures, time zones, world views and levels of wealth and poverty.

The 2014 contest ran from March 26 to April 16 with 960 participants from 208 universities in 62 countries placed in 114 multinational teams of eight members. Teams used distance communication technologies to build their team, come up with creative ideas on profitable businesses to address the needs of youth and/or children, and write a business concept proposal.

24 students from SPM participated in GEE covering business proposals across various domain. The executive summary of one such business proposal on Global Youth Networks prepared by Ravikant Asrani of PGP 13 batch, who worked 7 other team mates from Malaysia, Australia, New Zealand and Columbia is given below.

'On a global scale, today's youth are faced with rising unemployment numbers, and minimal chances to gain the necessary experience in order to become employed. The Global Youth Career Network

Hayden Murray	New Zealand
Christie Wong	Australia
Cheong Yan Hui	Malaysia
Tan May Yee	Malaysia
Kang Jingwen	England
Ravikant Asrani	India
Rossy Perea	Colombia
Linda Lozano	Colombia

(GYCN) aims to achieve a solution to this problem by providing online tools and services to those who most need them.

These tools come in the form of mentors from top companies, CV writing tips, interview preparation and soft skills training. Such a foundation is necessary since employers are looking for people with industry experience and professional impressions. GYCN works as a platform for youth around the world to share information about job seeking processes and for firms to post their job advertisements.

The revenue of the website will come through offering a premium service for a reasonable joining fee, advertising sold to businesses, and partnerships. By 2018 GYCN will have broken even and will be a profitable venture. In the fifth year of business, GYCN will be offering investors a return on investment of 25%, followed by a 120% return in the tenth year.

The social and economic value provided is also notable, given that unemployment is a common problem faced by new graduates worldwide. Therefore, we believe our website benefits youth in each given region, and in turn, provide a sustainable level of experience and employment on a global scale.

Reflections from Summer Internship Programme 2014

Emerson Process Management

Raman Shahi, PGP13

Summer Internships are said to be a platform to bridge the gap between class room learning and the expectation of industry from the young nurtured talent out of college. The internship provides an opportunity to witness the execution of the learnt theories of marketing, operations, organizational behavior and others.

My internship at Emerson Process Management was one such opportunity. The transition from a student to an intern becomes really smooth if we get a mentor who gives constant guidance and support. I would say I was lucky enough to be assigned under the mentorship of Mr. Deepak Purohit, DGM – Marketing, Emerson process management, who always encouraged me and gave a constant guidance to achieve the objective of my assignment.

I was deputed in the Marketing division of Daniel Measurement Solutions (SBU of Emerson). Daniel is having expertise in Custody Transfer Metering solutions and has a strong foothold in this segment in the Indian Gas Sector. My assignment was to come up with a detailed analysis of upcoming and ongoing pipeline projects in the Downstream - Oil Sector. The objective was to find out potential customers for custody transfer metering solutions.

My findings included a detailed analysis of all the POL pipeline projects that are ongoing and under considerations along with their estimated completion schedule, reasons for delay and financial budgeting. It also covers the Business risk associated with this kind of business and the 'Risk Mitigation' practices for the same.

This opportunity at Emerson helped me to understand one very important aspect of this domain – Custody Transfer Metering. It also enhanced my overall knowledge about this sector. Apart from this, it also gave me a taste of the 'corporate – culture'. IF I had to describe my experience in one word, I would use the word "Awesome".

Weatherford Oil Tools M.E. Ltd

Pinang Panjwani, PGP13

Internship is the stepping stone for any MBA graduate to the corporate world and a good internship experience is always a dream come true for a trainee.

I had the opportunity to work with Weatherford International Incorporation, owing to my diversified professional exposure to commercial and technical profiles coupled with the knowledge of Supply chain management principle acquired at SPM.

My project was to conduct a feasibility study for the oilfield chemicals division of Weatherford (WFT) Middle East and North Africa (MENA) region within India. Key responsibilities included finding

potential suppliers for more than 150 oilfield chemicals of WFT, macroscopic comparison of India vis-à-vis China for the Chemical Industry and Cost modeling for oilfield chemicals. My work involved dealing with Department of Chemicals and Petrochemicals of Government of India, CHEMEXCIL, ASSOCHAM, Customs Department of India and Specialty manufacturers Association in India.

The project included primary and secondary research, however since my mentor Mr.Sithamparam Kumaravel (Supply Chain Manager of MENA Region) was based in Dubai office. I had the option of working from home or WFT Vadodara office. I opted to work at the office to equip myself with the working culture and business environment prevalent at WFT.

The best part of working with a large corporation is that you get a detailed exposure and learn the nuances of the complete value chain. Sticking to deadlines is at the backbone of its culture. My first day as an intern, I was asked to jot down the roadmap for the next 10 weeks with deliverables and details about each day. Though my mentor was in Dubai office, the flow of information and support was so smooth that it felt as if he was sitting next door to me. He also visited the Vadodara office on my first day of internship and conducted an orientation to the business of oilfield chemicals for my benefit.

The internship always kept me on my toes when it came to working but WFT also made sure employees don't overexert. As WFT believes in flat organization structure I could air my grievances/issue with my superiors and it would be resolved the same day in most of the cases. WFT treated me as an employee and interns were given the same HR benefits as the employees.

Needless to say it was an enriching experience in terms of knowledge and experience. The internship opportunity with WFT has broadened my knowledge with respect to Upstream sector of Oil & Gas Industry and helped me in understanding the criticality of Supply Chain Management with the service industry for time and cost optimization. It is a dynamic industry where a loss of one day results in loss of billion dollars, the essence being loss of time and opportunity.

Ernst & Young (EY)

Rahul Tiwari, PGP13

With all the learnings from first year of MBA, next thing up was summer internship programme. I was looking forward for a company where my knowledge from past industrial experience, Skills that I developed during first year of management study and my ability, could be leveraged upon and be useful during my Internship. Ernst & Young was the organization that gave me this opportunity.

In Ernst & Young, the first day was a broad introduction to Internal Auditing and Risk Advisory consultant role, which made me feel a lot more comfortable about the next 8 weeks ahead. I was working on Internal Audit engagement for an Ernst & Young client – Reliance Industries Ltd. (Patalganaga Manufacturing Division & Silvassa Manufacturing Division).

Within three days of my internship I was given first assignment to conduct an audit of Jawaharlal Nehru Port Trust (JNPT) all by myself. Though it was quick but this is how things work at Ernst & Young; least turnaround time, stringent time limit and full freedom to do work. Within one month in the internship, I got involved in three Audits, made audit reports, worked on SAP, analysed process data and handled process owners meeting. But with all this work, the company also gives you authorities and needful facilities. Various Process reviews (Internal Audits) that I conducted during 8 weeks of internship

encompassed key areas like Production planning and performance improvement, Plant Maintenance, Shipment of bulk materials, Contracts Management and Catalyst performance.

One of the things that most captivated me was the strength of the associations between the EY team and their counterparts on the client side. We worked very closely with people at all levels of the organization. At the team level, I had the pleasure of working with truly great people who all made me feel like part of the team from day one. Overall, it has been a very fulfilling experience so far. Every day was a new day with a new challenge and an opportunity to learn something new.

Hindustan Coca-Cola Beverages Pvt. Ltd (HCCBPL)

Dhwani Mandan, PGP13

God has perfect timing; never early and never late and it takes a little patience and a lot of faith!!

Getting an Internship is never difficult, but getting it at the place of our choice with the work we would love to do take a lot of patience. I distinctly remember the days before internship when batch mates kept asking each other about who is interning where, to such questions my heart always skipped a beat. Friends in other B-Schools, neighbors and close relatives too asked that where am I placed for internship. In the heart of my heart I knew that something good will surely happen. Although it was too late, I was still giving interviews and my friends had already started with their internships.

A few times I thought life would have been much easier if I would not have waited for an internship of my choice, I doubted my decisions. But I made it to exactly where I wanted to be, Hindustan Coca-Cola Beverages Pvt. Ltd (HCCBPL). I was glad I waited for it to happen. I was going to learn marketing of soft drinks is what I thought to myself. There were 20 interns accompanying me from various other nationally recognized B-schools at the meeting where we were explained how to arrange a cooler, where to put the posters, banners and danglers in an outlet. We were assigned the markets where we would work.

As I reached my respective market, I was learning about the outlets I needed to cover. At outlets I was introduced as “Madam”, and the shop owners started telling me all their grievances, I noted them down. Soon I also started arranging cans, glass and plastic bottles in the cooler. Outlet owners now recognized me, which gave me a sense to belongingness to Coca-Cola and HCCBPL. Then came the task of placing posters, banners and danglers correctly in all the shops at an eye-level. Difficult part wasn’t about placing them; it was about how to convince the outlet owners to let us use these in their shops. This developed an influencer in me.

Soon I got an opportunity of street selling, selling coco-cola outside Motera Stadium during the IPL matches held in Ahmedabad. The entire area was painted in red or blue. I got an appreciation of being the best sales person for that day; it encouraged me and motivated me. On the days of match in Ahmedabad all the executives and senior executives along with the interns were on the Motera Stadium Street to witness the Coke Mahool and sell Coke @ Rs. 20.

But then I realized that an internship is worth the hype, we get to learn a lot many things, we get to experience all that we have studied in the books and we all get just one chance to do our internships during our MBA. So I decided to take up a second internship. Being fortunate enough I got to do my sec-

experience was extensive as it was in the area of my interest; Mergers & Acquisitions. I got a chance to work on the live projects for the future M&A, I also learnt about the process of M&A, business valuation methods and analyzing financial statements of various companies.

"Nothing ever becomes real 'till it is experienced." These internships gave me my first industry exposure.

Waiting time is the hardest of all; I am glad I waited with patience and faith in Almighty.

Ogilvy and Mather

Juhi Patel, PGP13

A B. Com graduate with specialization in Economics joined MBA with the thoughts of a better rank and a major in Operations, but my friends made me apply for Ogilvy and Mather. The interview was short where they told us the profile and the work we would be doing; this was the only organization which asked me whether I would be comfortable working in Delhi, generally which is not the case. Life was the usual after then. I had another interview scheduled on the day when I officially became ineligible for the same as I was selected at Ogilvy. First time ever I was selected in my first shot; the happiness was accompanied with a concern about living in Gurgaon.

I started my two month journey at Ogilvy PR with very little knowledge about the field. The entire journey was more of learning about the industry and the work. Work environment at Ogilvy is something one has to experience to understand; it is an organization one would always look forward to work in. My mentors Ms Shweta Kshtrepal and Ms Shifali Kapur were always ready to help and explained even the minutest of the things related to PR including releases, media calls, composing mails and the like. Deadlines were to be adhered to at any cost, an essential act usually overlooked as a student. The work involved thorough research about the clients we dealt with and the fulfillment of the requirements and specifications of the clients and the media (print/ online/ wires).

An unexplored field soon became my area of interest and gave more clarity to my future goals. The report making process helped me further understand and contribute to the industry. The internship ended with a happy note; the entire PR team bid us a wonderful farewell. The cordial relationship that I shared with my mentors and colleagues still persist; the team greets me with the same warmth and is always happy to help.

Future Group

Maharshi Vyas, PGP13

My internship was at Future Retail Ltd, the retail wing of Future Group. Future Retail Ltd. is the pioneer group to initiate organised retail in India by opening up supermarket chains named Big Bazaar, Pantaloons, Home Town and many more. I had always heard about complexity of retail business in India so had a strong urge to explore that field.

Journey started with an interview process of two stages and I was selected to work at West Zone office. I was given a choice to select a project of my interest so I opted for "Location Analysis for Prospective Expansion Plan". During my stint at SPM before internship, we learnt that location analysis inculcates myriad factors depending on the requirement and also varies from one industry to another. I chose that

project to expand my vision in terms of critical thinking as I had no laid pathway to follow or guidelines to obey. I was supposed to recommend preferred location from the list available to me. Only constraint was that company did not want to conduct any research. So the only option available to me was to churn out useful information from the extensive database available through secondary sources.

After collecting data for around 21 cities, I had to analyse the data and segregate it based on market segmentation. Data collected ranged from demographics to psychographics. Based on that data, a comparative score was calculated which indicated the viability of business.

Major learning apart from project included impact of culture on working efficiency, value chain of retail business and its issues, visual merchandising and its impact on consumer buying, mitigating competitors move and cost structure of retail business.

"While applying your managerial skills never underestimate the power of common sense", this is the gist of my entire stint at internship.

What you don't learn in MBA

Mr. Brajesh Bajpai Business Head- Gujarat, Vodafone

A healthy industry interaction is undoubtedly a pre-requisite to strengthen learning and broaden perspectives of an individual. With unending efforts, School of Petroleum Management has been successful at organizing yet another successful industry interaction session with a renowned personality in the industry Mr. Brajesh Bajpai, Business Head, Gujarat Circle at Vodafone.

An individual of his stature and experience when talks to the budding managers, both learning and unlearning of thoughts take place. Mr. Bajpai with his varied experience in the industry for over 15 years now gave insights on his work style methods and how he has been adaptable to changing situations over a period of time.

The session was focused on his real life lessons that he learnt both form his success and failure. He shared about his initial days at Xavier's School of Management, one of the premium B-schools in the country and talked about various perspectives he developed there through his learning. He also stressed upon individualism over blindly following what the society considers to be correct/incorrect. "Don't be yet another brick in the wall have your own style with solid content," he said. He also spoke about obsession of our country with advertising and marketing gimmicks that often influence the people and gets them to where a company sees profits for itself. Last but not the least, Mr. Bajpai addressed the need to work hard over worrying about what results are. There is no substitute to hard work in this world and it is the only key that leads to success. The real essence lies in not what a naked eye sees; it rather lies in the underlying substance of it.

Such thoughts and lessons surely may stop us from making huge mistakes, which may have otherwise been committed, and this is what we truly call as learning beyond the books.

A glimpse of recent academic & professional activities undertaken by SPM-Faculty.

Innovative Micro Energy Solutions: Cases from India

Dr. Pramod Paliwal,

Professor-SPM & Dean,

Faculty of Management, PDPU

Authors: Dr. Pramod Paliwal,; Sanjay Sakariya,

Published in: 2014 by www.thecasecentre.org

Length: 31 pages

Data source: Field research

Abstract

Energy shortages, inefficient usage, inequitable distribution, rising energy costs and a lack of uniform accessibility in many parts of the developing world are indicators of the unsustainable trends in the global energy system. If the current global trends of primary energy consumption and increasing carbon -emissions are not altered the risks of climate change and of resource wars are only bound to increase. It has thus to be decided by all the concerned stakeholders whether we continue relying upon the existing perilous and unsustainable patterns of energy use. This becomes important in the light of the challenge of climate mitigation also. Being the world's fifth largest in terms of power generation and sixth largest in terms of energy consumption, India's power problems have been acute and growing. It is therefore very important that providing sustainable & affordable energy solutions to masses – especially under-served and low income households – becomes part of the government's commitment. This is intrinsically linked with economic growth, health, literacy, and dignified life. The paper discusses two successful cases of sustainable micro energy solutions – especially for the underserved and low income households - (i) Solar lighting and (ii) Biomass electricity. Both cases throw a wide range of common perspectives that enable the understanding of Key Success Factors (KSFs) and requisites for replicating the successful business models to take such success stories at the desirable wider levels.

Topics: Electricity; Growth; Renewable energy; Micro-energy solutions; Bottom of the pyramid; Affordability; Innovation; Sustainable solutions

Mobile Marketing: A Study of Usage Patterns and Attitude amongst Mobile Phone Users

Dr. Hemant Trivedi,

Director, SPM, PDPU

It is a firm belief that a student learns from his Guru (Teacher) and considers him/her equivalent to a parent, sometimes even more than that. These beliefs are reinforced when our gurus set newer standards to be attainted; and if not attain at least make and effort to be close to it. Dr. Hemant Trivedi, Director,

SPM, PDPU was invited to one of the prestigious conferences of UK namely 'International Conference on the Reconstruction of Global Economy where he presented a paper titled "Mobile Marketing: A Study of Usage Patterns and Attitude amongst Mobile Phone Users" and was given "The Best Presenter" award. It was done in association with Dr. Rohit Trivedi, Associate Professor, Mudra Institute of Communication Ahmedabad and Mr. Harsh Puri who assisted in both Research and writing of the paper. It is indeed our fortune to get insights about the paper through an abstract that is an essence of the work.

Abstract:

Indian Mobile market is one of the largest in the world and mobile advertising in India is growing rapidly with 35% growth in number of available impressions between quarters 2 and 3 of the year 2011. Surge of Smartphones has changed consumer disposition towards mobile phones with consumers growing more comfortable with m-commerce as indicated by earlier research. Objective of this research is to study uses of mobile phones by Indian consumers as differentiated for 'Smart Phone' users and 'Ordinary Handset' users. Usage patterns and attitude towards uses of mobile phone based on usage rate are also studied. Research outcome indicates that type of handset used does not impact usage pattern and uses that a consumer obtains from his device. Differentiation between Smart Phones and Ordinary Handsets both by features and attributes of the handsets as also by nature of use by handset owners is not very much. Light and Heavy users are more positive in their attitude towards entertainment value derived out of mobile phones. Medium users are more concerned with functional values offered by their instruments. This research offers insights to Smartphone handset manufacturers and mobile service providers to enhance and differentiate their products and services. This research paper addresses issues of mobile usage in India, which is not a well-studied market.

Key Findings:

- Smartphones are not differentiated from ordinary handsets in terms of attributes and features
- Usage rates for Smartphones and Ordinary Handsets remains almost similar
- Medium users of mobile phones are more serious about their use.

Key Words: Mobile Handsets; Smartphones, Usage Patterns; Entertainment; Texting

How efficient is your AC? Its all in the stars…

Dr. Tanushri Banerjee,

Professor, SPM, PDPU

Globally depleting fuel resources like coal, oil and gas has triggered discussions in various forums in India to emphasize the significance of renewable energy sources like solar, hydro, wind and bio gas. Anticipating a shift of the consumer mindset towards Greener Technology products, organizations have

identified this niche market and introduced a range of products for various customer segments.

This article discusses the purchase behavior of consumers for efficient home appliances (specifically refrigerators and air-conditioners) in Western India in the state of Gujarat. Air-conditioners and refrigerators are rapidly becoming popular devices due to increase in per capita income and also due to constant rise in temperature resulting from climate change. In Gujarat, in most cases medium and high income consumers purchase non-star, or 1 or 2 star rated ACs, because 4 and 5 star split ACs have higher capital cost. In the case of refrigerators, they are now available with 3, 4 and 5 star ratings and there was a maximum sale of 4 star ACs in 2008-09. In an effort towards mobilizing higher purchase of energy efficient products, incentives by government and power utilities could be created for bulk purchase discount and buy back policy. Replacement of old devices by energy efficient ones may not be always possible due to various reasons. Devices that have lifetime longer than 10 years never get fully replaced. In parallel, new devices continue to be bought to satisfy the demand arising from expanding households and businesses.

As part of corporate social responsibility, companies and managers need to think of building innovative greener products that adhere to local as well as global environmental policies. In parallel, regular training camps can be organized by organizations for creating awareness amongst the consumers about energy efficient products. The efforts for technology transfer from developed countries to India for manufacturing custom made products that suit the geographic and social structure in India need to continue. All this will facilitate consumers' preference for energy efficient home appliances.

The Article was published in Infraline Magazine

Voice your opinions !

India has been labelled as a shattered economy since we all can remember. After the change in the central government, expectations regarding the economical upliftment of India have reached an unreasonable high. The issues regarding direct sales tax (DST) and Goods and service tax (GST) have raised their heads considering their straight impact on Fiscal Deficit; which will run a budget surplus-a situation which hasn't been seen till date in India. Corporate Tax Rate, which is currently 33.99% in India, needs to be reduced according to financial experts. This high tax rate as well as a complex corporate tax structure in India is apparently deterring foreign investors from entering the Indian markets. Another need of the hour is to make reforms friendly enough to help sustain home grown industry and start-ups. Due to high cost of raw materials and high interest rates, these industries are facing a hard time. Introduction of price stabilization fund, which would be utilized during food price escalation, to contain food price volatility is also under consideration. Increase in basic exemption limit in income tax is also a common demand. With the Union budget-2014 doing the rounds, what are your expectations and views regarding the economic revival norms currently being discussed? **Rise of the rupee, increase in disposable incomes, extensive infrastructure creation... A lot to give a thought upon !**

We asked SPMites their opinions on this. Here we present the best answers:

Nisarg Dave, PGP13:- Well the new government has a plethora of issues to tackle with. The pending decision of implementation of the GST (Goods & Service Taxes) which will replace all the other taxes should be decided fast so as to rate GST at 16-20%. Fiscal Deficit has been at around 4.5% of GDP for the past financial year, relatively low than past years; yet alarmingly high- so Tax buoyancy and exports should be encouraged. Along with this India should focus on manufacturing rather than outsourcing and offering services. With only services as their USP, no nation can convert itself from 'developing' to 'developed'.

Jignesh Trivedi, PGP13:- Six weeks is very less a time to prepare a national budget. The main focus would be to get India on fast track growth and this budget might also show the path to be followed in following years. Some important issues that the budget can touch upon are the introduction of GST (which has potential to contribute around 1.5% to GDP), Coal India Privatization, settling the dispute of gas pricing, incentives for setting up of manufacturing facility, thrust to MSME sector, fiscal consolidation and inflation control. The budget can also touch upon other issues like disinvestment of government stake in PSUs, banks consolidation, and differential banking norms.

Sagar Thakkar, PGP13:- "New hope, New direction". So many expectations and long wish list from up-coming budget but according to me this budget will be more focused on basic issues like unemployment& inflation. Also focus on some tax benefits areas. We have expectations for development in the major sectors like power, infrastructure, oil & gas and agriculture. We are also expecting growth in PSUs and Gov should come up with innovative route for revenue generation. As we all know the new Government got very less time in preparing this budget but I think at least some concrete decisions and some direction for next 5 years will be expected from this budget.

PGP 14 Orientation Programme

Plato has rightly said 'Beginning is the most important part of the work'. Seventy-four fresh faces from different cities, carefully selected and put together for a whole new journey that lasts two years and beyond, had their induction into the family of SPM and the world of management. The induction started on 12th of June and was spread over a period of 15 days, where, the students got acquainted with the campus life and witnessed various Stalwarts from the business world who played their part in providing an initial understanding of the still to be explored world of management.

The first day began with a welcome note from the director and faculties of SPM wherein they addressed the students about the opportunities and the challenges that this two year programme will bring along. It was followed by a series of guest lectures, the first being delivered by Mr. Sunil Parekh, Strategic Advisor to prominent firms like ZydusCadila and Jubilant Group. He provided a perspective about the MBA degree and its nuances to the students. Another eminent personality Prof. Atul Tandon, emphasized the importance of communication skills for managers. Prof. Nikhil Raval, then introduced the management principles to the new breed of managers.

Prof.Ravichandaran, IIM Ahmedabad, elucidated evolution of management education and the present modern day management education system. Also, Mr. Robin Thomas, Placement in charge for SPM, threw some light on training and placements of the school.

Students were also given some insights into the Energy & Infrastructure sector. Mr. Anil Joshi, GSPC LNG, introduced the batch to the Energy Value chain by illustrating several examples and Mr.Gautam Patel gave an overview of the infrastructure sector. Renewable energy sources were also laid emphasis on. Prof. Indrajit Updhyay, discussed various sources of renewable energy and gave the solar energy value chain and its significance to the Indian energy basket. The sessions were both informative and entertaining eliminating all inhibitions in the minds of the newly initiated.

Apart from the guest lectures, several workshops were also conducted. It started off with a creativity workshop undertaken jointly by Prof. Amar Gargesh & Prof. Subhash Tendle. Mr. Shyam Sharma of Claris Life sciences conducted a workshop of goal setting encouraging the students to target short term and long term goals to yield success for both professional and personal development. Mr. Saurabh Parikh, President, PMI Mumbai chapter took a workshop on project management while Prof. Chandramauli Pathak, took a workshop on entrepreneurship to boost self-sustainability among the students. Mr. Divyesh Desai, Shell and Mr. Snehal Desai, jointly took a workshop on Oil and Gas value chain while introducing them to various segments of the O&G sector. Prof. Subrat Sahu, Assistant Professor, SPM, took a workshop on case study analysis elucidating the students about the proper approach to analyse a case study. While Dr. Pramod Paliwal, Dean, SPM and Dr. D. M. Pestonjee, GSPL Chair Professor, jointly took a workshop on professional writing and its ethos.

Beyond guest lectures and workshops, the industrial visits for the students were organised to Charanka Solar Park, the largest solar park located in Patan district of Gujarat; and Sardar Sarovar Dam, the largest dam of the Narmada valley project.

While the guest lectures, workshops and industrial visits were aimed to give the students an exposure to several crucial fields, fun games like Ad Mad, Business quiz, Short Cricket, Dodge ball and Talent Evening were conducted by the volunteers of the senior batch which helped in creating a lighter atmosphere and ensured the ice breaking among the students.

Induction Programme

Continuing legacy and tradition is a thought that we Indians are born and bought up with and indeed are proud of. It is always beautiful how generations after generations, certain values and ethics filter down to the new generations. School of petroleum management has always proved its potential by attaining excellence in management also by being the best example of evolution with different academic activities and events conducted over a period of time.

With the onset of PGP14 batch making its way to School of Petroleum Management having enormous enthusiasm, challenges and excitement, the School organized an Inaugural Program welcoming the PGP14 batch on 2nd July, 2014. The aura created at the ceremony was certainly pointing towards a bigger and better tomorrow of SPM with the presence of some of the eminent dignitaries of School of Petroleum Management and Pandit Deendayal Petroleum University giving insights on different issues and facts related to the management of the past, present and future that should be

Prof. Paristosh Banik, Director General at PDPU and a fatherly figure to the entire university who has pioneered the developments at PDPU enlightened the batch about milestones of PDPU since its inception in 2007. The growth story of PDPU is a commendable one since in just 7 years, it has achieved an International recognition which is not a common story with all B-schools.

Prof. C. Gopalkrishnan, Emiritus professor at PDPU seemed hopeful about the forthcoming batch in terms of their contribution they could make to the University as a whole and the opportunities they would be exposed to while they are in one of the most important phases of their lives. He also talked about the technological aspect of Economies and Entrepreneurs. He also stated about the need of time where an individual needs to run at an increasing pace to be at the same place.

Dr. D.M. Pestonjee, GSPL Chair Professor at PDPU threw insights on the expectations from the upcoming batch calling it a generation with abundant resources. He talked about this generation being lucky since it is in an era where if an individual asks for one thing gets two of them. He talked about his experience at SPM, PDPU and how he has seen it grow over a period of time.

A briefing by Prof. Hemant Trivedi, Director, SPM, PDPU was again a motivating one where he talked about the contributions PGP14 is expected to make in a facilitating environment like SPM. “Stretching beyond your limits” is an idea that he stressed upon which is one of the greatest keys to success of both the students and SPM.

Last but not the least, thoughts shared by Prof. Pramod Paliwal, Dean, Faculty at SPM, PDPU provoked and illuminated the gathering about certain reality checks such as being great planners is neither sufficient nor useful in the future. Rather execution of it for greater benefit is what we should focus at strategically. He also gave examples of various personalities and differentiated between how a few of them though are successful could not be excellent and vice versa. Hence in order to be a completely developed individual, you need to be both which comes with right amount of work at the right time.

It was indeed a stimulating event that has encouraged the PGP14 batch to take SPM to newer heights with all their wisdom knowledge.






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Pandit Deendayal Petroleum University

SPM
School of Petroleum Management

Contact Us

Off Koba-Gandhinagar Highway, Raisan, Gandhinagar- 382007, Gujarat, India.
Ph : +91 79 23275112
Fax: + 91 79 23276364
Mail us at : spm.mirror@spm.pdpu.ac.in
Visit us at : www.spm.pdpu.ac.in
www.facebook.com/spmpdpu