

## **Course of Journey So Far and Way Ahead!**

-----The journey so far has been challenging and not so easy. Yet so much could be achieved only because of the collective efforts of the faculty members, staff and students at Jaipuria Jaipur and I wish to thank them all from the bottom of my heart for making this possible.

But a word of caution here my dear faculty and staff colleagues. We need to address the moot question here, shouldn't we introspect whether we are on the right path and right direction? Are we gaining something out of the momentum created, is it helping us in self development and growth, more importantly does it address to the need of the institution building. Yes these are larger questions we need to address and introspect and be convinced about. Because such initiatives, such directions do create apprehensions in mind, in minds of people not very far but closer to you all, it raises questions. We are being and will be questioned. Questioned about relevance, our priorities, our direction, our competence, our desired objectives. However, Questioning should not deter us rather we need to be convinced and each one of us should have the conviction and confidence in what we are doing. We must ask ourselves – Is this direction based on principles of experiential learning and learning by doing, capable of taking us to our goals? We must also ask, whether these experimentation without fear of doing mistakes, few things which we teach to our students, would help us in our journey of building ourselves and the institutions? Or is it that the opposite is the only truth in making a good institution or a good

academic or a good professional i.e. we devote time first for reaching the pinnacle, become relevant, master our subject knowledge, focus on teaching and learning before we teach, we conduct MDPs, conferences and many other activity based initiatives that we may have taken. It needs a serious reflection on part of each one of us. We need to seriously introspect whether the institute needs a sequential approach where initially we consolidate only on teaching and placements and build our competencies which in today's dynamic time can be an un-ending process, through self reading, research and refresher courses or we find merit in the principle of learning by doing, even if, in the process we have to burn our fingers. We need to seriously deliberate, if the world is really there to wait for us to become perfect or we grow perfect with the world. Even Tendulkar's and Prahlad's were never born perfect they grew to be perfect on ground. I am posing these questions because we should never want this institution to be known for initiatives and hard work which is only for collaborations and activities and not based on our competences and strengths. Unless we are convinced that what all we did helped us sensitize ourselves towards research, towards connecting with industry, helped us raise our bars, helped discover potential within and instil a confidence and an inner urge to excel in all academic pursuits, let us not pursue it any further. In case we feel that it helped us with opportunities to engage with industry and some live research, helped us think new dimensions of our subject areas, helped us broaden our perspective with collaborative efforts, helped our institute build better visibility and connect with the industry and other strata of society, we must not shirk away from our well determined goals and actions on face of any criticism, any questioning as they ought to contribute positively.

-----*excerpts from Convocation 2012 Director's Report*