

“Welcome Address by Prof. G. Raghuram, first batch of PGPX, 2006”

Exhibit 6: From the PGPX Chair

I welcome you to the first batch of the PGPX – the One Year Post-Graduate Programme in Management for Executives.

This programme is aimed at developing bright, enthusiastic and aspirational executives into management leaders and change agents in the global arena.

The programme is built on the years of experience of delivering management education at IIM, Ahmedabad. The main pillars of learning in this programme are the value of discovering one's own potential due to continuous and concerted efforts towards a focused goal, ability to appreciate multiple perspectives in a management situation which is learnt through the case method, and syndicate group discussions, and finally an exposure to the international arena, so that one develops a truly global perspective.

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This programme has been designed as a win-win situation for all the constituents: for PGPX participants by providing an opportunity to get the best possible management education in a world class management school, which leverages their experience and aspirations for a future career, for the recruiters and corporate sponsors, in terms of being able to get the best talent for senior management positions, and finally for the Institute and its faculty, in terms of being challenged by you, so that our own design, development and delivery expertise is enhanced.

The programme has six segments. It begins with an 'induction,' followed by the 'building blocks' which helps crystallize and enhance your basic conceptual and analytical knowledge. This is followed by the segment which distinguishes this programme. This segment is called 'preparing for top management' in which all the courses are designed to prepare you for visionary leadership and change agent roles in a top management context. We then have 'international immersion' for international exposure and greater global orientation. The 'electives' segment provides an opportunity to explore certain areas of application of the concepts learnt in the 'building blocks' and 'preparing for top management segments'. Further, it also provides an opportunity through an independent research project in which the participants would contribute back to the Institute by either writing a case study based on their own prior experience, or a research paper that could be focused on an industry analysis, approaches to a socio-economic divide affecting the world, or a business plan for an entrepreneur. The final segment of the programme is the 'capstone' in which the learning experience is in a sense 'capped' through a business game and an integrated case, so that a holistic perspective of the learning process is provided.

While you are at the Institute, I would also encourage you to take advantage of the co-curricular and extra-curricular opportunities. We have modest sports facilities. The students here run extremely popular and well organized festivals, both professionally and culturally focused.

A special word to you as the PGPX Pioneers. I really appreciate the opportunity you have provided us to launch this new product by venturing to be participants in the first ever PGPX. While you will be helping make history, there are many responsibilities and inconveniences that would come as a package. A key responsibility would be to work with us to put this programme on a sound footing for the future. Inconveniences would be many, as infrastructure and services continue to fall in place. I hope you will bear this with grit, understanding and a smile.

Overall, I am sure you will enjoy the experience of being at IIM Ahmedabad and having the benefit of the excellent expertise of the faculty and staff through this programme.