Management thoughts are growing exponentially in this globalised business environment. While appreciating the past success of ‘Management’ we would also recognize that today’s accelerating pace of change is putting pressure on our organizations to be at the forefront of management thinking. If we want to maintain our standard of living our rate of change has to be comparative to the rest of the world. But our present day management thinking has evolved from a whole range of influences over an extraordinary long period of time.

This issue of JIMS 8M throws light on the various areas of management and economy and showcases four research articles, two case studies, four perspectives and one opinion article. The article on “Infrastructural Development and Regional Disparity – A Comparative District Level Analysis in Karnataka” by Basavaraj S. Benni aims to find out the regional infrastructural development disparity among the articles of Karnataka state to call for a decisive policy action and initiative to reduce regional variation in the state. B. Prakash and others in their article on “Training in A.P.S.R.T.C. have studied and evaluated the training programmes and practices of A.P.S.R.T.C. training centres to help top management to upgrade and improve the effectiveness of the methods and practices. B.S. Bodla and Sunita Bishnoi have in their article on “Emerging Trends of Mutual Funds in India: A Study Across Category and Type of Schemes” critically analyzed the pattern of growth and development of Mutual Fund Schemes and the risk and return pattern of these Mutual Funds. M. Balaji and R Vijayakumar in their article on “Environmental Impacts: A Study on the Effects of Working Environment on the Performance of Executives” attempt to study the level of satisfaction of the executives on the various environmental factors that contribute to the effective performance.

There are also two case studies in this issue of the journal. The one by Ragupathy Madavan Balakrishnan and R. Amuthan focus on the acquisition strategy adopted by Manglore Refinery and Petro Chemicals Limited while the other by Shefali Srivastava and Y.S. Thakur illustrates the performance appraisal at Grasim Industries Limited. In the perspective section, the article on HRM in public sector banks by Sujatha Mellacheruvu and C.S.G. Krishnamacharyulu delineates the challenges faced by this HR managers area in public sector banks. Vikas Nath and others in their article on “Managing Customer Experiences” illustrate the concept of CEM. The article on global competition by M.V. Sastry highlight the ways of facing global competition G.Ramesh Babu delineates the prospects of Retail Management in India. In the opinion section, Mahesh Chandra Prasad stresses the foreign competition in higher education.

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