

## Report on NICOM 2014

The 17<sup>th</sup> Nirma International Conference on Management on the theme “NEW PERSPECTIVES OF FINANCE AND THE EMERGING ECONOMIC SCENARIO” was held from January 9-11, 2014. The National Education Summit on Innovations in Management Education was also conducted simultaneously over Jan 10-11, 2014.

The conference received a combined number of 225 abstracts and 110 full papers. A total of 114 papers have been presented by 96 participants in the conference from around the country and also from USA. A total of 22 parallel track sessions, including 4 sessions for National Education Summit were conducted to facilitate this.

For the Finance paper presentations, 18 parallel track sessions were conducted, where 86 papers have been presented on a variety of topics ranging from capital markets, investor behaviour and asset pricing, volatility anomalies to corporate finance and governance practices, financial inclusion and microfinance and many other similar subjects. In the NES, 28 papers were presented in 4 sessions.

The proceedings of the conference have been published in two eBooks with ISBN number. These consist of selected full research papers which have been edited and formatted for the same. The titles are

1. **Perspectives of Financial Markets and Systems: Market Efficiency, Behavioural Finance and Financial Inclusion**; edited by Dr. Neeraj Amarnani and Prof Parag Rijwani
2. **Emerging Paradigms in Corporate Finance and Regulatory Framework**; edited by Prof Parag Rijwani and Dr. Neeraj Amarnani

The major speakers at the Inauguration were Chief Guest Dr. A K Balyan, MD & CEO, Petronet LNG, Guest of Honour – Dr. Dilip Nachane, Member, Prime Minister’s Economic Advisory Council and Professor Emeritus, IGIDR, Mumbai, Dr. Karsanbhai Patel (President, NU), and Dr. Anup Singh (Director General, NU) also graced the occasion with their august presence.

There were two plenary sessions, on **Corporate Finance in the present Economic Scenario** (Speakers: Mr. Prabal Banerjee, President – Int. Finance, Essar Group and Mr. Rajesh Tulsiani, CFO, ABG Shipyard, Chair: Prof Deepak Danak) and on **Capital Markets and the Economy** (Speaker: Mr. Aseem Dhru, MD & CEO of HDFC Securities, Chair: Prof R J Mody)

A Seminar on Innovative Management Education, hosted by the National Education Seminar, under the Vibrant Gujarat banner, which featured under the Chairmanship of Shri Bhupendrasinh Chudasama, Education Minister, Government of Gujarat such well known speakers as **Dr. Jagdish Sheth**, Charles H. Kellstadt Professor, Goizueta Business School, Emory University, USA, **Dr. Frank Linnehan** - Professor of Management, LeBow College of Business, Drexel University, USA, **Dr. Joseph Shevel** - President, Galilee International

Management Institute, Israel, **Mr. Vinod Rai** – Former CAG, Government of India, and **Dr. Anup Singh** – Director General, Nirma University

There was also a Panel Discussion on the 3<sup>rd</sup> day of the conference where, on Innovations in Management education in the areas of Finance and Economics. These were **Dr. Ravindra Dholakia**, Professor, Indian Institute of Management, Ahmedabad, **Dr. Darshan Desai**, Professor, Berkley College, New York, USA , **Dr. Dinesh Awasthi**, Director, Entrepreneurship Development Institute of India, Gandhinagar, **Dr. Jeemol Unni**, Director, Institute of Rural Management, Anand, **Dr. Samir Shah**, Associate Clinical Professor, LeBow College of Business, Drexel University, USA

The conference concluded with a Valedictory Session where the Chief Guest, **Dr. Bharat Gariwala** – Chairman, Gujarat State Third Finance Commission, Gandhinagar, delivered the keynote address and distributed the best paper awards.

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