

AlmaMatters

The Planet-I Newsletter



Editor's Desk

News & Events

News from Alumni Chapters
& Campus

Entrepreneurs of Planet-I

Announcements

**Upcoming Executive
Programmes**

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IIM INDORE ALUMNI OFFICE

Edited by:

Prof. Ganesh Kumar N.

Chair, Alumni



सिद्धिमूलं प्रबन्धनम्
भा. प्र. सं. इन्दौर
IIM INDORE

Editor's Desk

Dear Alumni,

This issue of the newsletter is a celebration of the addition of new alumni to our thriving network of former participants.

After a gap of two years, we assembled "physically" at the 23rd convocation on April 9, 2022, to celebrate the success of graduating students. We can hold our heads high since we have conquered all the obstacles life has thrown our way over the last two years. It has not been easy, but we have overcome this obstacle. It's also the start of a new journey, and I would like to encourage you never to give up. I want to urge you to maintain the same spirit you have demonstrated during the past two years; the sacrifices you have made and the sleepless nights you have experienced are, I assure you, your passport to your next destination.

I do not guarantee you an easy path, nor do I assume that the journey will be the same for everyone. Nonetheless, it is up to each one of you to make your goals a reality, and it is up to each one of you to keep pushing harder until you achieve what you want.

Many of you entered this wonderful Institute with great hope, and successfully graduating demonstrates that your expectations have been fulfilled. You have been given the opportunity to enrich your lives, your families, your communities, and society in general.

Every end has a new beginning. Now you are proud alumni of this Institute. I hope you'll all come back and tell us about your experiences, pay a visit to the campus, and

share your hard-earned wisdom with the students who are about to spread their wings.

We could not confer the Distinguished Alumni Award during the pre-convocation due to unforeseen circumstances, but there is always another day to celebrate our alumni's achievements. We will announce this at a later point in time.

We have paused the Wisdom Talk series since it is summer time and participants and residents of the campus are on vacation/ other engagements. We will resume the same in June once participants return to the campus.

As I mentioned in the earlier issues, we'd love to hear from any of our alums who've started their businesses and would like to feature them here. We will celebrate their success together in the community.

We also invite our prolific book-writer-alumni to share information about their work. You may share information at alumnioffice@iimidr.ac.in. If you want to share any other significant achievement of yours, please do share it with us for larger dissemination among the community.

We welcome your suggestions at alumnioffice@iimidr.ac.in to make this newsletter a strong connect between the Institute and alumni. All IIMI Alumni Chapters are requested to submit the Alumni office regular updates on events and news that should be shared with the IIMI community. These updates will be included in future editions of the newsletters.

To update your mailing address, employment and more, please write to alumnioffice@iimidr.ac.in with a cc to alumni@iimidr.ac.in. Remember to add these two email ids to your safe sender's list.

With warm regards,

Prof. Ganesh Kumar N.
Chair, Alumni
IIM Indore

PS: Visit us at <https://www.iimidr.ac.in/alumni/newsletter/> for previous issues.

News & Events

News from Alumni Chapters and Campus

New Logo of Alumni Committee



Alumni Committee has designed a new official logo of the Alumni Committee of IIM Indore. This logo symbolizes their continued dedication to serving our esteemed alumni and our alumni's perennial contribution to bringing glory to our Institute.

The colour theme chosen for the new logo synchronizes with IIM Indore's logo, symbolizing the unison of students and the Institute both during and beyond their academic life. Alumni Committee promises to continue extending their undying support to our alumni because alma matters.

Members of Alumni Committee:

Kumar Adarsh (Secretary), PGP 21-23
Himani Goyal, PGP 21-23
Sakshi Gujrati, PGP 21-23
Riya Gupta PGP, 21-23

Pamona Deva, IPM 18-23
Shruti Badegaonkar, PGP 21-23
Mayuri Talaulikar, PGP 21-23

Members going for STEP:

Aditya Shankar, PGP 21-23
Shyam Sunder Shrivastava, IPM 18-23

Prerna Agarwal, PGP 21-23

Alumni Achievement



We are proud to inform you that DealShare, a venture co-founded by our alumnus Mr. Rajat Shikhar, has entered the Unicorn Club. DealShare sells grocery and household essential products through social media and messenger platforms like WhatsApp.

Mr. Rajat Shikhar, from the PGP 2003-05 batch. He has over 15 years of experience in various roles across companies like Myntra, Jabong and Foodpanda. He is presently the Co-Founder and Chief Product Officer (CPO) at DealShare.

It is a proud moment for us, and we wish him and his firm all the best for continued success.

Pre-Convocation 2022



The 23rd Annual Convocation of IIM Indore commenced on April 08, 2022, with the Pre-Convocation Ceremony.

During the event, certificates were distributed to the coordinators of various students' committees by Professor Himanshu Rai, Director, IIM Indore. Top scorers were also presented with certificates of appreciation.

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23rd Annual Convocation



The 23rd Convocation of the Indian Institute of Management Indore (IIM Indore) was held on April 09, 2022. A total of 747 participants received their degrees on this occasion. The Chief Guest for the convocation Mr. Sandeep Bakhshi, Managing Director and CEO, ICICI Bank, delivered the Convocation Address. The event took place in the presence of Mr. Deepak Satwalekar, Chairman, BoG, IIM Indore and IIM Indore's Director, Prof. Himanshu Rai.

[Read More](#)

Glimpses of 23rd Convocation



13th Batch of Faculty Development Programme Begins



The 13th batch of the Faculty Development Programme (FDP) at IIM Indore began on April 11, 2022. The programme was inaugurated by Prof. Himanshu Rai, Director, IIM Indore. Prof. Saumya Ranjan Dash, Dean-Programmes; Prof. Subin Sudhir, Chair-Executive Education, and Prof. Sanjeev Tripathi, Programme Coordinator-FDP, were also present on this occasion.

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14th Batch of EPGP Begins



The 14th batch of the Executive Post Graduate Programme in Management – EPGP began at IIM Indore on April 11, 2022. The programme was inaugurated by Prof. Himanshu Rai, Director, IIM Indore. Chief Guest Mr. Siddharth Sethi, Co-Founder – InfoBeans and EPGP Alumni; Prof. Saurabh Chandra, Chair – EPGP; and Prof. Saumya Ranjan Dash, Dean – Programmes, and other faculty members were present on occasion.

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IIMI – GIZ Germany Online Conference



IIM Indore, in association with GIZ Germany, organized a two-day online conference on COVID 19: Learnings & Implications for Management during 16-17 April 2022. This conference offered a diverse forum for academicians, practitioners, industrialists, and students to discuss the issues, challenges, and advancements in managing the global pandemic. The conference was inaugurated online by Prof. Himanshu Rai, Director, IIM Indore, and Mr. Amit Paliwal, Program Director, GIZ India, on April 16, 2022. Prof. Mit Vachhrajani, Conference Convenor and Faculty, IIM Indore and Prof. Pritam Ranjan, Dean – Research, IIM Indore; Prof. Abhishek Mishra, Faculty, IIM Indore; Prof. Subin Sudhir, Chair – Executive Education, IIM Indore; and Prof. Sushant Mishra; Faculty, IIM Bangalore were also present. [Read More](#)

During the valedictory session on April 17, 2022, Prof. Himanshu Rai, Director, IIM Indore, announced the top three Best Paper Awards. [Read More](#)

CPIBM for Defence Officers Begins



The first batch of the Certificate Programme in International Business Management for Defence Officers began at IIM Indore on April 18, 2022. The inauguration ceremony took place in the presence of Prof. Saumya Ranjan Dash, Dean – Programmes; Prof. Kousik Guhathakurta, Programme Coordinator; Prof. Subin Sudhir, Chair – Executive Education and Col. Gururaj Gopinath Pamidi (Retd), CAO, IIM Indore. Lt. Col. Abhishek

Mansingh, Jt. Director (Trg & Adm) DRZ (Central) Lucknow was the Chief Guest for the occasion. [Read More](#)

Entrepreneurs of Planet-I



Neeraj Joshi, Batch: PGP 2000 – 2002

Founder - ANT Enterprises (Tailorwear)

Email - neerajsdesk@gmail.com

**Company URL:
www.tailorwear.in**

How did your entrepreneurial journey start?

I think the journey of an entrepreneur (or any other talent) starts at two levels. The first level is when one starts dabbling in the space unknowingly, tastes small successes, and keeps doing it. All this while, the experience remains fuzzy and enjoyable, but nothing more. The second level is when one formally jumps into the field. My first level started when I must be in early school and continued at IIM Indore. I set up a library of my books and those of my friends, created many small properties like cricket tournaments, Indian festivals related events, and sold many tours and merchandise. My first formal stint came in when a friend asked for help with his retail idea. I was employed with Adidas then. I helped him with the business plan and initial setup while I continued to do my job. Finally, when the business took some shape and needed my full-time commitment, I took the plunge.

Briefly describe your business and why you chose this particular field?

The brand name of my current business is TailorWear. As the name suggests, we offer tailored apparel to men. Unlike traditional tailors, we do it in multiple cities and countries. We are on a mission to be the personal tailor stylists of our customers wherever they are in the world. Having worked in the apparel space, I feel that the best apparel for anyone is a tailored one. The problem is that good tailors are not available ("a dying tribe"). Those around are either too expensive, too boring, or very bad. We are working on changing this by bringing a scientific approach, maintaining high customer standards, and using technology extensively. We feel that TailorWear has the potential to become a threat to all the ready-to-wear, formal brands in India and abroad because of its unique offering.

What were the major challenges you faced in starting your business?

Lifestyle business depends on discretionary expenses and therefore relies heavily on consumer sentiments.

As soon as we had started our venture, government measures like demonetization and GST disrupted many businesses, especially the textile industry, because it was out of tax purview earlier. Then came Covid, which slaughtered many sectors, including ours.

Having said this, I must say that I think the rapidly changing world has created a level playing field that offers more promise to the new entrants.

I am more hopeful today than when we had started.

Did you go for external funding for your start-up/ firm? What factors helped you to secure such funding?

No, we have not raised any external funding as yet.

Consumer businesses, especially the branded ones, start seeing an exponential rise in their value after they hit a certain point in their life cycle.

There are various reasons behind it which is a subject of another discussion. I believe if one can sustain till that point, the outcome is much sweeter and more empowering for the company. We plan to bootstrap till then and focus on continuous improvement and ensuring continuity in our offering.

What would be your advice for an MBA who is considering a startup?

B-school is a fantastic place to test and incubate ideas. A two-year window amid a fabulous infrastructure, industry and academic environment, and like-minded batchmates offer immense possibilities. I believe that day is not far when new business launches will become equally important events, if not bigger, than the placements. Given my thoughts, I advise the budding entrepreneurs at B-schools to not waste any time and utilize all the resources that I mentioned above to launch their business before leaving the campus.

If you are still not sure about starting up at this stage, you can look at joining one as an employee to gain first-hand experience. Nowadays, many companies look at candidates with start-up experience in their profile very favorably. So even if you decide against starting a business, your employment profile won't see a setback.

Announcements

Upcoming Executive Programmes

IIM Indore is at the forefront of providing carefully curated programmes that cater to the needs of executives. We help Executives gain new perspectives in an increasingly complex business environment. Our courses deliberate relevant real-world business challenges, and we keep on evolving them with world trends. We impart learning which provides immediate value and impact on the organizations. Executive Education Programmes at IIM Indore consist of a wide array of offerings carefully designed to meet your specific needs. The programmes are conducted at our campuses in Indore and Mumbai, online through technology-enabled platforms, and at specified client locations. We have a diverse portfolio of on-campus and online Executive Education Programmes for working professionals at different levels. Please explore the programmes listed below to find the programme which suits your requirement.

[Customized Programmes](#)

[Short Duration Programmes \(Online and On-campus\)](#)

[Long Duration Online Programmes](#)

[Executive Programmes in UAE](#)

[General Management Programme for Executives \(GMPE\)](#)

[Virtual Learning Programme for Executives \(VLPE\)](#)

[Certificate Course in Business Management for Defence Officers](#)

[Faculty Development Programme \(FDP\)](#)

For more information or assistance, please contact:

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