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Guest Editorial Note

It gives me immense pleasure to pen a guest editorial note towards the special issue of the SDMIMD Journal of Management, March 2016 Issue. The present volume represents a copious compilation of the significantly expanded version of some of the most thought provoking research work presented as part the Fourth International Conference on Emerging Trends in Finance & Accounting held at SDMIMD Mysore over August 18–20, 2015. Finance Conference 2015 witnessed an overwhelming participation of 150 delegates across the three days representing national and international geographies with participation from both the academic and practitioner community. All the submissions were double blind-reviewed in order to assess their suitability for a possible consideration in the peer reviewed SDMIMD Journal of Management (SDMIMD JOM). Papers emerging from the double-blind referring process were then subsequently subjected to another round of peer review process under the able supervision of Dr. N. R. Parasuraman, Director & Senior Professor – Finance, SDMIMD Mysore and Dr. R. Jagadeesh, Dean – Academics, SDMIMD Mysore & Chief Editor – SDMIMD JOM. In keeping with the stringent international quality parameters adopted by the Journal, only 6 research papers accompanied with a case study and a book review made it to the final issue.

The selected papers lay focus on a very interesting portfolio of emergent issues in the realms of Finance and Accounting. Dr. Bikramaditya Ghosh's paper throws an interesting econometric perspective on the utility of Artificial Neural Network in predicting stock-market movements. The papers by Gaurav Sinha, Hayyan Alia & Arivnd Ashta, and Sakshi Kharbanda seek to throw some very interesting perspectives on the emergent field of Microfinance. These studies seek to offer credible prescriptions that are empirically validated in order to drive Microfinance as a potent tool towards achieving the objectives of financial inclusion and self-determination by accessing economic opportunities. Radhika B Nair and Dr. Jayalakshmy Ramachandran carry out an interesting study by empirically examining the influence rendered by key economic determinants in driving domestic tourism in India. R. Venkatraman and Thilak Venkatesan offer some interesting perspectives on evaluation of the growth of Mutual Funds (MFs) and Exchange Traded Funds (ETFs) in India.

In the case study section, Dr. Gagan Kukreja and Sanjay Gupta have critically looked at the TESCO accounting fiasco and offer credible insights on the need to maintain an effective control system among organizations. The featured case presents an interesting opportunity for a stimulating class-room discussion in a typical accounting course covered under MBA program. Finally, the book review on Financial Management: A Step-by-Step approach, N. R. Parasuraman by Dr. Stephen Aro-Gordon makes up for an excellent summary of the key attributes of this latest addition into the influential readings on Finance.

In conclusion, let me wish all the authors for their painstaking efforts and having their papers accepted in the prestigious SDMIMD JOM. I also take this opportunity towards expressing my profound gratitude to Dr. N. R. Parasuraman and Dr. R. Jagadeesh for rendering an invaluable support in compiling this special issue. Thanks are also due to Dr. Sunil M. V., Librarian, SDMIMD Mysore and the publishing team from Informaticsglobal for their relentless coordination.

Dr. Ullas Rao
Guest Editor for Special Issue