

Prof Rishiksha T Krishnan speaks about innovative ideas for strengthening institute

IIM-I needs distinctive identity

dna correspondent

Winner of the Thinkers 50 India Special Innovation Award based on the votes of peers and corporate leaders, IIM-Indore director Professor Rishiksha T Krishnan is widely expected to bring innovative ideas to further strengthen institute.

This should be good news for the students and aspirants of IIM-Indore's UAE campus, which is flourishing in its third year of operations as the only flag-bearer's of an IIM abroad. In an interaction with the Media and Corporate Communication Committee of the institute's UAE campus, the director spoke of his plans for the institute and specifically its flagship programme in UAE.

► **How do you feel after moving in to the Director's office?**

My experience at IIM-Indore so far has been very positive. The institute is well poised to move to the next level and this is an exciting time to be the Director of IIM-Indore.



PGP AT DUBAI

PGP at Dubai, UAE is a two year regular post graduate programme broadly similar to the PGP at IIM-Indore. The programme has been suitably modified to cater to the needs of the GCC market. It started with an initial batch of 14 in 2011 and has grown to 49 participants (Batch of 2013-15) in its third year. The programme has been well received by the industry and its success has resulted in plans to increase the batch strength over the next two years.

► **Now that you've assumed office, how do you plan to further differentiate the IIM-Indore relative to your prior experience in IIM-Bangalore?**

IIM-Indore is known for the wide scale and scope of its programmes and its international efforts. However, there is a need to create a sharper and more distinctive identity for the institute. The contours of this will take shape in the

next few months.

► **What are your top priorities for IIM-Indore?**

My top priority is to create a distinctive position for the Indian Institute of Management, Indore.

► **Professor Ravichandran took a massive leap by introducing the PGP-UAE**

programme and led to IIM-Indore becoming the first IIM to cross national borders. What are your thoughts on this programme?

IIM-Indore is the first IIM to offer the flagship PGP programme outside India. This is a great initiative but it is has to fulfill our international goals fully. We would like to see a class of students from different nationalities and not from India alone. That is our next challenge.

► **Please share your views on Indian management students exploring opportunities in Middle-East Market.**

We are very keen that PGP-UAE Graduates should address job opportunities in the UAE and adjoining markets. As you know, we have engaged an external consultant to support this process. We hope PGP-UAE students will take advantage of this arrangement.

► **Now that the PGP-UAE programme is**

in its 3rd year of its operation, is there any plan to establish IIM-Indore's own campus similar to that of IMT and SP Jain??

At present there is no plan for IIM-Indore to have a campus of its own in UAE.

► **When do you plan to include admissions to the PGP-UAE program under the umbrella of Common Admission Test (CAT) along with other PGP programmes to further spread awareness of this programme?**

No decision has been taken on inclusion of PGP-UAE under the umbrella of CAT.

► **Since we are still in the nascent stage of this particular programme growth, is there anything you would like to tell the students about leveraging current opportunities and creating opportunities for future growth as well?**

We hope PGP UAE Students and Graduates will create a name for themselves and for the institute in the Middle East.