



December 2013

# Alumnus of the Month

It is always a pleasant experience to talk to LIBA alumni and help them relive their LIBA memories.

The opportunity this time was with Mr. Manoj Deshpande, a man of great conviction and even greater humility. Mr. Manoj is currently the Lead - Professional skills development stream of Education & Research unit at Infosys Ltd.

Mr. Manoj recalled that the entire educational journey at LIBA had been extremely fulfilling. Walking into the campus, he said he was pleasantly surprised at the spectacular growth of his Alma Mater. There was nostalgia in his voice as he spoke about a few of his most cherished memories at LIBA. He said the visit of then President Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam was most memorable as he had been given the opportunity to deliver the Vote of Thanks on the prestigious occasion. He recalled that though nervous, he was inspired by Dr. Kalam who maintained a constant

eye contact with him throughout the speech.

Mr. Manoj spoke about the



erosion of values in today's world and the need to revert back to ancient wisdom. It was not surprising for us to know that he had read about 200 books during his course at LIBA. His pursuit of excellence had made him work harder and strive towards being the best. The reward for his hard work had come in the form of a prestigious gold medal.

As a message to the students at LIBA, Mr. Manoj quoted from J.K. Rowling's speech at the Harvard University. 'Personal happiness lies in knowing that life is not a check-list of acquisition or achievement. Your CV and

your qualifications are not your life. Life is difficult, and complicated, and beyond anyone's total control, and the humility to know that will enable you to survive its vicissitudes.' He strongly emphasized that students should not get disheartened by failure but should instead be motivated to learn from the mistakes and become better managers. He said it was important to overcome the challenges of the real business world with sheer determination and hard work.

Mr. Manoj is definitely an inspiration to the student community at LIBA! He has definitely emulated his idol Dr. Abdul Kalam in terms of his humility. The onus is on us to learn from his example and keep our feet grounded in times of success.