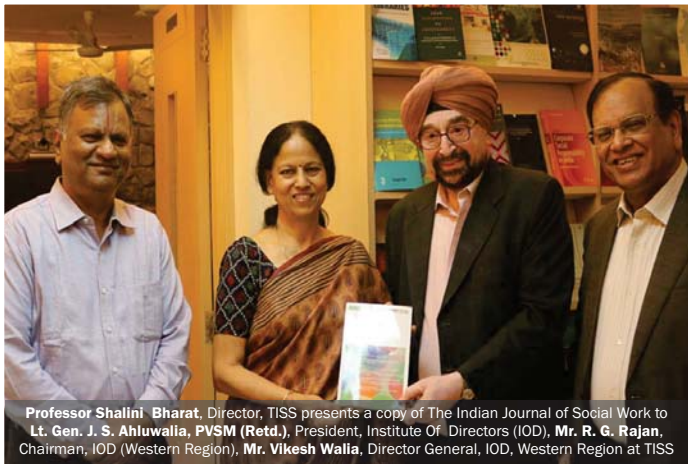


TATA Institute of Social Sciences (TISS), Mumbai a Partner of IOD at 13th International Conference on CSR



Professor Shalini Bharat, Director, TISS presents a copy of The Indian Journal of Social Work to Lt. Gen. J. S. Ahluwalia, PVSM (Retd.), President, Institute Of Directors (IOD), Mr. R. G. Rajan, Chairman, IOD (Western Region), Mr. Vikesh Walla, Director General, IOD, Western Region at TISS

With Bollywood star Raj Kapoor's residence in its backyard, and with Megha Patkar and Anu Agha of Thermax as face of its Alumnus, TISS represents the whole gamut of Social Sciences in this country. TISS was established in 1936, by Sir Dorabji Tata as a 'Graduate School of Social Work', the first school of social work across Asia. It was renamed as TISS in 1944, became a Deemed University in 1964, and now has four campuses all over India in Mumbai, Tuljapur, Hyderabad and Guwahati.

Over the years, the Institute has, among other thrusts, made a significant contribution to policy, planning, action strategies and human resource development. It has done so in several areas, ranging from sustainable rural and urban development to education, health, communal harmony, human rights and industrial relations. TISS has earned recognition as an institution of repute from different Ministries of the Government of India and various State Governments, as well as international agencies such as the United Nations, and non-government sectors, both national and international.

TISS is now also a National CSR Hub, a 'Think Tank on CSR' with 600 empanelled NGOs and over 80 Responsible Corporates. The Hub also draws partnership support from University of Pennsylvania, USA, apart from various Govt of India organisations.

Visit of Lt. Gen. J S Ahluwalia PVSM (retd.), President, Institute of Directors (IOD) to Tata Institute of Social Sciences (TISS) at Chembur, Mumbai, on 27th December 2018 was a momentous occasion for IOD and TISS relationship. Prof Shalini Bharat PhD, Director TISS gave a warm welcome to the IOD team. Team IOD was taken around on a campus tour by Mr. Tanmay Nayak, Program Director, NUSSD (National University Students' Skill Development Program), accompanied by Dr. Nitin Waman, CEO Alums Association.

TISS took up the challenge to demonstrate models on skilling people with varying educational qualifications (including illiterates, whose skills have been rendered redundant in the new economic context). To address this, NUSSD was initiated as a pilot project in 2013 and is currently being tested in 11 Universities across 9 states. It aims at increasing the employability of University students by imparting knowledge and skills, through cutting edge teaching and learning methods, as well as practical work experience through internships and community projects.

Graduating students will not only have a degree in their chosen stream, but will acquire a diploma in a job-oriented discipline. For example, a B.A. History student could potentially also acquire a Diploma in Tourism. All students enrolled for NUSSD gain competency in motivation, digital literacy, English communication, legal literacy, youth leadership, peoples' skill, financial literacy, introduction to entrepreneurship, and working with communities.

Next stop on campus tour was at 'School of Media and Culture Studies (SMCS)' guided by Prof Anjali Monteiro, Dean, SMCS. SMCS is engaged in media teaching, production, research and dissemination. The SMCS has done pioneering work in critical media education in the country. In 2007, it started a two-year Master's degree in Media and Cultural Studies, which focuses on professional media practices and research, within a framework that enables the development of a critical perspective on media, culture and society. The PG Diploma in Community Media, introduced in 2012, is designed for social workers, community activists and cultural organizers, who are engaged in grassroots level activities, with the goal of supplementing their field efforts with the knowledge, perspectives and skills that will enable them to work with communities and facilitate to express their concerns through the media. The students of the school kept IOD visitors busy, with video shoot of the whole visit.

Visit to such an Institute is not complete without visiting its Library and also the success of an Institute is best gauged by presence of students in the library, and not just in the classes. Dr Satish Kanamadi the Head-Librarian took the IOD team, around the Library. Award winning Sir Dorabji Tata Memorial Library at TISS, since the commencement of academic restructuring in 2004, has enhanced its collection extensively. More than 25,000 new books have since been added, and it has now over 123,000 books in principle domains of social sciences. Journals subscription base (including e-Journals), which was 2835 in 2007 has gone up to 10,298 journals in 2015.

Not only a "Cyber Library" has been established but also to make



Lt. Gen. J.S. Ahluwalia, PVSM (Retd.), President, Institute Of Directors (IOD), Mr. Vikesh Wallia, Director General, IOD, Western Region visit the School Of Media and Cultural Studies, TISS



Lt. Gen. J. S. Ahluwalia, PVSM (Retd.), President, Institute Of Director (IOD), Mr. R. G. Ranjan, Chairman, IOD (Western Region), Mr. Vikesh Wallia, Director General, IOD, Western Region visit TISS Library

learning resources available to visually challenged students, library started a center with assistive technologies known as the "M K Tata Centre for the Visually Challenged".

Library has made major developments in terms of integrating ICT in library and information services. Several digitization activities, digital literacy and awareness programmes are being carried out continuously. An Institutional repository has been set up. Along with UGC infonet, library also subscribes to a range of online databases/e-journals, needed for the institute academic programmes.

The MOU between IOD and TISS was reaffirmed for the second year of partnership, and for the upcoming IOD's 13th International Conference on CSR to be held at Taj Lands End, Mumbai. The

participants of the conference are sure to benefit immensely as TISS also happens to be the National Hub for CSR. Many collaborative initiatives were discussed such as joint training programs for Corporate Board Members at TISS Campus, and availing of TISS Faculty for the Institute of Directors' programme of 'Masterclass for Directors', leading to Certified Corporate Directorship. Opportunities for training senior TISS Alumni, and IOD partnering TISS program for IAS participants for TISS Governance Program for IAS were also explored.

Prof Shalini Bharat Dean of TISS, was a generous host with a sumptuous lunch hosted for the IOD Team. TISS and IOD look forward to carry forward this fruitful relationship. ■

Compiled by **Vikesh Wallia**
'Resident Editor' of Director Today

Directors' Symposium on **INTEGRATED REPORTING**

India International Centre | Tuesday
Lodhi Estate, New Delhi | **15th January, 2019**

Keynote Address by



Helen Brand OBE
Chief Executive
ACCA

Guest of Honor



U. K. Sinha
Former Chairman
Securities Exchange Board of India
(SEBI) & Serving Board Member on
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Theme: Linking Strategy and Performance: Role of Integrated Reporting