

♦ PERCEPTIONS ♦ CEOs ♦



PALASHRANJAN BHANUMICK

**Kishore Biyani** ♦ group CEO, Future group

The world is changing and we need to change (along with it). India needs to keep pace with the rate of change. The quality of faculty, the quality of research, the quality of infrastructure – everything has to improve in management education in India. The government and the private sector, everyone has a role to play towards this.

**Ashok Soota** ♦ executive chairman, Happiest Minds Technologies

More and more is being crammed in the curriculum. This essentially



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means that the time needed for people to absorb, introspect and apply the management principles is taking a back seat. The other issue is lack of adequate faculty to meet the growing demand for management education. The focus has to shift to providing a holistic learning experience. The most important enabling factor is to increase the opportunity for students to learn the application of theory to real-life business scenarios.

**Prakash Iyer** ♦ managing director, Kimberly Clark Lever

There is too much focus on building quantitative and left brain skills and inadequate focus on shaping attitude, honing people skills and imparting life skills. The syllabus lacks adequate innovation and newness. There is no quality check on teaching staff or quality of education. Result: poor quality crop of students. This phenomenon is probably symptomatic of what's wrong with B-school education. The testing protocol of CAT needs to change and be made less quant-intensive. There is also need to get a more diverse batch of students, attract top quality professors and revamp the course curriculum. B-schools must focus on creating passionate leaders, teach people



PRAKASH JADHAV

skills, goal-setting and values and also help build mindsets.

**Ajay Nanavati** ♦ managing director, 3M India

There is excessive focus on analytics often at the expense of true insight. Another key impediment is the lack of tolerance for mistakes. B-schools need



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to put far greater focus on combining global perspectives with uniquely Indian needs and also have greater engagement between industry and academia to ensure that graduates have the skills that industry needs. Management institutes must make a conscious effort to tie up with global partners and create opportunities for research and internships for students to understand cross cultural collaboration and practices. ♦