

### **Samalochan: An industry- academia interactive session**

An industry – academia interactive session ‘Samalochan’ was held on 25 June 2015 at Kempegowda International Airport (KIAL) to elicit and discuss the views of the Industry in order to update the course curricula of MBA in Aviation Business Management Programme of Jain University and make it relevance to the industry needs. The faculty of Aviation Business Management of IIAEM, Jain University and representatives of Aviation Industry participated in the session.

The twin objectives of this interactive session were to deliberate on the skill needs of human resources for the rapidly transforming aviation sector and to create awareness of the programmes at the university in this regard. The participation in the session included senior leaders and representatives in the industry as well as Airport Authorities including GMR group, BIAL, AAI, IMD, Air India, Jet Airways, Indian Oil - Sky Tanker, GlobeGround India, Bobba Menzies Air Cargo, and others. Jain University was represented by all senior faculty members of aviation business management, Dr. N G R Iyengar, Mentor, IIAEM, Jain University, Prof. K.R. Sridhara Murthi, Director of IIAEM and Prof. Dinesh Nilkant, Centre Head of CMS Business School and Prof. N. Nagraj. Also students of the outgoing batch of MBA Aviation programme were present.

The deliberations at the meeting which was chaired by Mr. P S Nair, CEO–Corporate, Airport sector of GMR Group brought out the humungous potentials as well as challenges of emerging aviation sector in all its dimensions of infrastructure, operations and maintenance, financing, services, regulations and attendant demands on skills. The group also discussed on the possible avenues for linkages between industry and academia. The views expressed at the session strongly echoed the value of such interaction and positive attitude of industry to engage in activities that would help student community to grapple with the realities of the professional demands.