

SP Jain offers global MBA courses for students across S'pore & Dubai

Ambika Naithani
SINGAPORE



THE HRD ministry's stance that domestic demand be given priority has deterred IIM Bangalore from setting up a campus in Singapore. However, it couldn't kill the spirit of other colleges. While IIFT has branched off in Dubai for an executive masters in international business, two other Indian colleges — SP Jain Center of Management and XLRI, have set up centres in Singapore and Dubai. While XLRI offers an executive MBA, it also has executive diplomas in management and post-graduate diploma in business management in Singapore.

However, the SP Jain Center of Manage-

ment, leveraging on both the countries has come with a unique model called the global MBA (GMBA). It offers executive MBA for full-time professionals. This consists of two semesters of six months each. The first semester has core curriculum courses, while the specialisation subjects are taught in the latter six months. "The first half of the programme covers the general areas in management. The latter six months are for specialisation and imparting domain knowledge," says Nitish Jain, president, SP Jain.

"Through the specialisations, the student gets a focus and makes an entry into the middle rung of his career ladder from where he progresses. These super specialisations are in great demand in these countries," says Vijay Sethi, SP Dean GMBA. Students who opt for finance or IT specialisations do their core curriculum in Singapore, later move to Dubai for specialisation. Conversely, those who choose Marketing or Global Logistics first go to Dubai for their core curriculum and move to Singapore for their

specialisations. "Among the students, the demand for specialisation in information technology (IT) has been maximum this year," adds Mr Jain.

Talking of the recruitment scene, there is a broad spectrum of companies that visit these campuses. There has been 100% recruitment for the previous batch. Then what qualities attract recruiters? "Working in different countries gives one global exposure which doesn't come by reading up. There are four key factors in learning namely functional, applicational, industrial and global/geographical," says Koh Seng Choon, visiting faculty, GMBA.

"There aren't just companies from these countries, there are other foreign companies who are coming to recruit too. ICICI Bank and Infosys are the two from India," adds Mr Sethi. Though almost all students at the Singapore campus are impressed with the efficient work environment and opportunities, almost 30% of them want to head back to India after completing the course.