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Special Issue – GLOGIFT 06

This edition of the journal is a special issue; it contains six best reviewed papers from the International annual conference, GLOGIFT 06 organized at Asian Institute of Technology, Bangkok. The theme of this conference has been "Management of Innovation, Technology Transfer and Flexibility for Competitiveness in the Globalized World". All of these papers deal with this theme, are highly application oriented and take global and upcoming issues in the securities market, shrimp industry, garment industry, health care, refrigeration and air-condition sector and engineering industry. These papers can be helpful both for the industry personnel and academicians in dealing with the new challenges.

The first paper is a global competitiveness study of Thai securities industry and covers a case study of factors influencing investors' loyalty to securities companies in Bangkok. Authors elaborate that the relationship with the securities marketer, relationship with the securities company and the investor's satisfaction were found as factors that influence Thai investors' loyalty to the securities company.

The second paper is regarding development of a framework to understand the impact of top management on TQM practice in Thai Garment study. From the analysis the two main findings emerged. Firstly, firms with high top management commitment implement the other nine TQM factors more rigorously than those with low top management commitment firms. Secondly, in high-top management commitment firms two TQM factors namely employee involvement and product innovation are the primary predictors of the product quality.

The third paper is on assessing International success and national competitive environment of Shrimp industries of India and Thailand with Porter's Diamond model and flexibility theory. As part of some of its findings, a flexible national environment puts Thailand at an advantageous position than India in the global Shrimp export market. The study also reveals an interesting trend through Compounded Annual Growth Rate calculated for a period, that displays a competitive position of India as compared to Thailand.

The fourth paper presents some insights of the simulation model of the Healthcare System (HCS) viewed as a flexible system. Development of the demonstrative simulation models for alternative HCS can offer alternative solutions to achieve effective healthcare management systems.

The fifth paper critically examines a development project called Human & Institutional Development in Ecological Refrigeration (HIDECOR) in India. Here many of the typical concepts and processes of Knowledge Management were put into practice in project formulation and implementation of this project.

The last paper is a study made with the objective to analyze various areas of change management like organizational system, structure, culture, technology & people, and to formulate a process for the effective management of change. This study is empirical and has extensively used the paradigm of flexibility. This study has been carried out in phases, i.e. survey in engineering industries, case study, modeling and analysis.

Abid Haleem
Associate Editor