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From the JIBC Editor-in-Chief

First Author's Name: **Dr Nikhil Agarwal**

First Author's Title/Affiliation: **Editor-in-Chief JIBC**

Email: **[nikhil.jibc\(at\)gmail.com](mailto:nikhil.jibc(at)gmail.com)**

Brief Biographic Description: Dr Agarwal an international expert on ICT, Internet Governance and Policy. He has lectured around the world on IT Strategy, eCommerce, eGovernance and Technology Policy. He is serving as High-Level-Adviser to UN GAID and member of numerous editorial boards/review panels. He is currently Director of Zensar Center for Business Innovation (ZCBI) at Pune, India.

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3F – Fuel, Food and Finance crisis is keeping thinkers busy around the world. 2008 is considered to be quite eventful year be it Olympic or global crisis. My students ask questions on pattern of the crisis, as a Professor of business management, I found it very difficult to answer. All the theories & concepts of economics have gone wired which are framing the basis of world economy. Academicians & thinkers are burning midnight oil across the continents to concentrate on areas which might need broader attention & deeper thinking to survive economic slowdown. For eg: one of them is demographic studies; D K Matai in his recent note said “*Nothing less than fundamental re-design of our political processes will even begin to allow us to deal with issues that require a generational attention span. Most notable among these is manifest overpopulation, failure on which will at the very best severely handicap all other efforts. Among the many planetary scale problems, demographics is perhaps the most neglected.*”

Last month, JIBC publisher Nahum Goldmann and Editor Edwin Jacobs visited me in Pune, India. They were teaching to the Master’s students who are doing their degree

in Business Transformation. It was Edwin's first visit to any Asian country, he was surprised to see the economic development in this part of the world. He asked me if the Asian countries are much dependent on western countries & their market is continuously expanding, then why there is a slowdown in the economy. He was referring to the portfolio approach for the economy, the slowdown in one market can be compensated by blockbuster performance in other. The Asian economies and financial institutions are more-or-less untouched by the financial turmoil in west, may be due to strong domestic markets. However, we can feel the shadow of the slowdown in different forms, like the rising fuel prices have shattered the confidence of people leading to high inflation.

The current issue is has 14 articles from different parts of the world. I am sure you will enjoy reading them. I am using this opportunity to congratulate our two Editors who have assumed new responsibilities. Dr Raed Awamleh has joined as University Director at Middlesex University in Dubai and Dr. Jean-Michel SAHUT has joined as Professor at Amiens School of Management in France. Please email your feedback to us by using online form <http://www.arraydev.com/commerce/jibc/question.htm>. Your feedback and participation is extremely important to us.

Please ask your colleagues & friends to join the JIBC.

Nikhil Agarwal