

From our Chief Executive

Creating Leaders of Tomorrow
Issue 70, December 2008



Lt. General Arjun Ray, PVS, VSM (Retd.)

Dear Friends,

At Indus we are committed to **creating leaders of tomorrow** – leaders who will be world citizens but not at the cost of forgetting one's indigenous culture. Leadership capacity-building has, therefore, got to start as early as possible.

There is no fixed age when to start leadership training; Age is no bar. I believe it should start as early as possible because fifty percent of human learning is over by the age of ten!

Given the high pace 24x7 lives all of us lead, many parents may not be able to devote the ideal quality time to their children. So we have to come up with a practical strategy. I faced a similar challenge as most of my earlier career in the army was spent in operational areas. For whatever it is worth, I will share with you my strategies as a parent.

First, children learn in three ways: **example**, example and example. They look up to their parents as role models particularly when it comes to values and concepts of life, particularly the meaning of love and discipline.

Second, **nurturing the talent** of the child. We never forced or even suggested to our children what career they should choose. People will excel and do well when they enjoy doing something they like.

Nurturing the talent of a child goes hand in hand with encouraging mistakes. Unless done deliberately or mischievously, mistakes (and then reflection) are a good learning tool.

Third, **the reading habit** is developed or lost by the time a child reaches middle school. You can stack the house with books but children will still not read. It's when parents read that children will find books alluring.

Indus believes in close-partnership with parents; only then can our children become leaders of tomorrow. I welcome ideas and suggestions from you.

With warm regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Arjun Ray". The signature is written in a cursive style and is positioned above a solid black horizontal line.

**Lieutenant General Arjun Ray, PVSM, VSM (Retd.)
Chief Executive Officer,
Indus Trust.**