



Educate & Lead

# AWARENESS IN ACTION

Newsletter

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## Internationalization of education is the Need of the hour

**T**he draft National Education Policy had taken utmost care about the need for internationalization of Education and how do deal with it, said Prof. M.K. Sridhar, ICSSR Senior Fellow and member of Draft Committee on National Education Policy.

Speaking after inaugurating the fourth symposium titled 'Contextualising Globalization of University Education' as part of the series of symposia on 'Rethinking Globalisation, held at Gandhi Bhavan, Bengaluru on September 28, 2019, Sridhar highlighted the challenges of higher education.

Prof. Raghu Akmanchi, speaking on behalf of KRMSS, another partner of the symposium highlighted the need of teacher's proactive participation in the higher education. Sanjeev Nimbobum, convener of the symposium

introduced the idea behind rethinking globalisation series and gave an overview of the symposium.

Prof. H. A. Ranganath, Former Director, NAAC, addressed the first session moderated by Dr Chetan Sangai, faculty at Ramaiah University. Another session on globalisation and the changes in higher education was addressed by Prof. Venkat Rao, for which Dr Raju Modi was moderator.

Prof. Kincha, Scientist at Indian Institute of Science, addressed the third session, while stalwarts Prof. P. V. Krishna Bhat, Member, ICSSR and the Chancellor, Orissa Central University and Prof. K. R. S. Murthy, founder Director of IIM, Bangalore and former chairman, ISEC addressed the valedictory session. ●





# Policy changes must for Bridging gap between industry and institute

**E**ngineering education in India is unable to keep up its pace with the rapid developments in technologies in the world. Consequently, the industry is raising serious questions on the employability of this technologically qualified manpower.

In order to respond to this unfolding crisis, Awareness in Action (AIA) has initiated a dialogue between various stakeholders in the technical education sector, Industry, Research and development sectors.

As a part of the initiative AiA organised series of symposia titled “Emerging Technologies”. Based on the deliberations of the symposia, AiA recommends the following policy changes to bridge the gap between industry and institute:

- ▶ It is a known fact that India has not been a major competitor in a range of technologies. The question would be, would it be possible for the various agencies to sit together and set out a projection for 2050 and start working backwards. It demands AICTE to work with NITI Aayog and other agencies to develop blueprints for Indian Market by 2050 in domains like AI, Robotics, Cloud Computing, Medical Electronics, Health Industry, IoT and such sectors and then chalk out both the curriculum and the research priority through various institutions. This kind of coordinated, holistic prioritisation would be the first step towards reducing the gap between Industry and academia. Therefore, it is necessary to prepare a vision for 2050 for emerging technology and the skilled manpower and lay down a plan.
- ▶ It is emphasised that there is a need for continuous upgrading of the skill and knowledge (Pre-service and



In-service training) along with research linked professional development of engineering faculty

- ▶ A mechanism to constantly upgrade curriculum, and freedom and autonomy for innovation in the classrooms need to be evolved urgently
- ▶ One of the most important aspects of skill development is the emphasis on an industry-linked internship for students. This internship would compel the faculty and the colleges to build collaborative relationships with various Industries
- ▶ Various Science and technology agencies like DST, CSIR, STPI and many such institutions must build multiple joint centres for excellence and incubation centres in every state in partnership with and mentorship from Industry which must serve as the major centre for apprenticeship, project development, Industry investment and the faculty professional development
- ▶ Govt should build 100+ new institutions of the same quality of IITs and NITs.
- ▶ There is a need to have private players to offer finishing schools and technology up-gradation at every tehsil







level where students can compensate for the lack of training in the college. It should be affordable and thus Industries investment on training gets reduced. Such a climate helped the IT revolution in 1990s in India. A similar climate needs to be built for a range of technologies today.

- ▶ There is a need to modify CSR rules in such a way that Industries can invest in colleges through CSR to generate quality manpower.
- ▶ There is a need to strengthen the draft National

Education Policy vision on Skilling and Reskilling teacher fraternity and raising awareness among the teaching staff.

- ▶ There is a need to bring research culture to Indian institutions. That means we must look for large scale collaboration and faculty exchange program between Indian institutions and European institution without which we will not be able to establish a robust culture of research
- ▶ Since engineering education is predominantly private, today there appears a crisis in terms of student's availability to these colleges. There must be a policy measure to encourage these institutions to see the multiple managements more complimentary than rival institutions and incentivise them to have joint laboratories. Lest, these colleges will slowly shut down creating educational infrastructure and manpower crisis. ●



## Capacity building programmes for students

As part of its initiatives to bridge the gap between Industry and institute, AiA apart from initiating dialogue with the stakeholders, has taken up the responsibility on its shoulders.

AiA has decided to lead with example by organizing capacity building programmes and guest lectures for the students. Consequently, AiA in association with the Institute of Engineers, Hyderabad, has been conducting capacity building programmes for select students. Experts from respective fields will train the students in soft skills.

Select students from different educational institutions including University College of Engineering, Osmania University, G. Narayanamma Institute of Technology, CMR College of Information Technology, CMR College of Engineering and Technology, Siddhartha Institute of Technology, Vardhaman College of Engineering and Technology, Vidya Jyothi Institute of Engineering and Technology, Talla Padmavathi College of Engineering, Sri Indu Institute of Engineering, Vignan's Foundation for

Science, Technology & Research and St. Anns Degree College have so far attended the soft skills training organized by AiA at the Institute of Engineers, Khairatabad.

This is an ongoing initiative of AiA in association with the Institute of Engineers, Hyderabad. ●

### UPCOMING EVENTS

India is predominantly agrarian country. However, green revolution and globalization have brought sea-changes in Indian agriculture and farmers lost their independence. Today, Indian agriculture is in deep crisis due to various reasons and globalization has its share of impact on it. It's time to discuss the impact of globalization on Indian agriculture and the policy changes required to strengthen Indian agronomy.

Keeping this in view, Awareness in Action has decided to organize a symposium titled 'Rethinking Globalisation – Agriculture' on December 14 at Hyderabad.





## Industry institute Gap must be bridged

**E**ngineering students must be connected in real-time with the industry to be ahead of the emerging technologies, said Omkar Rai, Director General of STPI.

Speaking after inaugurating a symposium on 'Emerging Technologies: Curriculum, Industry and Policy', organized by Awareness in Action at JNTU on August 2, Omkar Rai said there is no choice but to embrace emerging technologies such as Artificial Intelligence, robotics and IoT etc. Not just embrace, but India should be ahead of the emerging technologies.

Commending the initiative of AiA, Omkar Rai said any policy formulation for developing curriculum for embracing emerging technologies must happen in collaborative manner.

Speaking on the occasion, M. Ramakrishna, Managing Director, Kistler-Morse Automation Limited, said that academic projects must be evaluated by industry experts and not by faculty. He also insisted that faculty should undergo industry interactions.

Speaking on the occasion, Prof. Vishnukanth Chatpalli, former advisor, NAAC, Professor, RCU, Belagavi said, "I am very happy that AiA has organized this symposium at a very apt time when the NITI Ayog has initiated dialogue on emerging technologies. I only request the organization to create awareness and support institutions in implementing the new technologies," he said.

Speaking at the first session on 'curriculum issues, Dr B N Bhandari Director, Academic & Planning, JNTUH, insisted that there should be strong collaboration between academia and industry in

curriculum development process since it is crucial to produce industry ready graduates.

Addressing the session, Vijaya Kumar Khaderbad, Chair, Association of Enterprise Architects, Hyderabad Chapter said that academically strong students should be encouraged to pursue higher learning and choose academics as career.

Arunachalam Karthikeyan, AVP, Manufacturing & PQ, 5BARZ India Private Limited, said technology has to help reduce the industry waste besides managing it efficiently.



Addressing the session titled 'Industry and Policy', Krishnakumar Thiagarajan, Vice-president, Delivery & Partnerships, eGovernments Foundation, stressed on the need to correct the education system and the validation of the education institutions. He opined that orchestration and collaboration has to be at a scale that the institutes can produce the industry ready students.

Speaking at the valedictory of the symposium, Dr V Kamakshi Prasad Director of Evaluation, JNTUH, urged the AiA to come up with such recommendations, which will help in bringing a policy to bridge the gap between industry and institute. ●



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