



FLYING HIGH WITH HIGHER EDUCATION

A healthy education backbone can help India build a dominant force of professionals, entrepreneurs and leaders. **BY BINDU GOPAL RAO**

IT WAS INDIA THAT CREATED the world famous Gurukul system and in the process inspired modern day international pedagogies of teaching and learning. The country has done especially well to keep its legacy of creation alive post-Independence. A large part of the credit should go to the role played by the University Grants Commission (UGC).

It has focused on channelizing the talents of young adults towards employment. “What helped was the Commission’s focus on reduction of stagnation of unqualified students by institutionalising three-year degree courses, improving of infrastructure, scholarships for research, better remunerated and qualified teachers, etc.,” says educationist Fatema Agarkar.

But while Indians are doing extremely well adapting to the global economy, Indian higher education needs to reinvent itself to be more relevant. According to Dr. Anand K Joshi, Vice Chancellor, CMR University, Bengaluru,

Indian industry needs to fund academic research to bring efficient innovation trends as the fundamental driver of economic growth.

CHALLENGES OF HETEROGENEOUS EDUCATION

The heterogeneous education system is based on a geographical, rural-urban, rich-poor set up and is a big challenge for educational institutions. Varieties of colleges, universities and technical institutions provide different quality of education. Some are imparting qualitative education while a few others are doing the dull job. Higher education also faces difficulties with heterogeneous education system as it slows down the learning of higher performing students. Each student has different levels/phases and capabilities.

Heterogeneity can be in perspective of either having all class of student population under the same education system or the unavailability of uniform education system for students with

disabilities. In both the perspective, it’s a loss to the nation’s productivity. This results in a mediocre society. Learning success can be achieved by homogenous education system, creating able pipeline of resources in all way of life, rather than only creating average engineers and outsourcing service population, which can be automated.

The cost of higher education, like most essential services, has been skyrocketing over the past few decades. This cost inflation is inevitable as the predominant input into higher education is human capital and infrastructure. “Although government spending on higher education has been increasing over time, it is now crucial for the private sector and employers to step in and fund educational initiatives,” says Siddharth Shahani, Co-founder & Executive Director, ISDI, ISDI WPP and ISME.

LOOKING AHEAD

Dr. Biju Paul Abraham, Dean (Academic) & Professor of Public Policy, IIM Calcutta, opines, “The major challenge for India is to expand opportunities for higher education while at the same time improving the quality of education delivered. This will require significant investment in both physical and human resources.”

India is on the verge of harvesting the largest pool of work force in the world. A healthy education backbone can help us build a dominant force of professionals, entrepreneurs, innovators and leaders for managing world affairs. This is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity for a nation and we must not lose this chance.

In the following pages, we take a look at some leading institutions and personalities doing innovative work in the field of education and contributing in a large measure towards the progress of society.



AT A DISTANCE OF 35 KM FROM DEHRADUN CITY, nestled between a scenic wooded patch and a picturesque stretch of rolling meadows, lies Ecole Globale International Girls School. With a focus on developing both

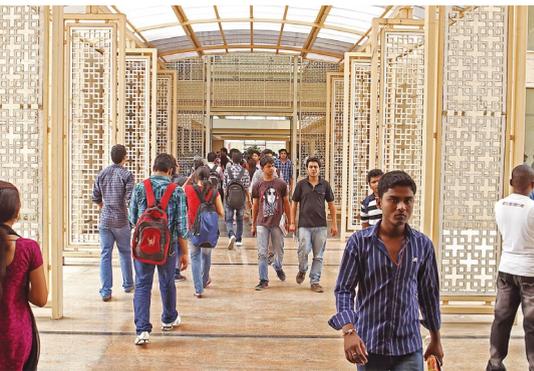
A STIMULATING ENVIRONMENT FOR STUDENTS

scholastic and co-curricular activities, Ecole believes in encouraging a “desire to know” and a “hunger to discover” among students. The school is affiliated to the CIE (IGCSE) board and the CBSE board and offers a wide range of subject combinations. An added feature is the inclusion of a finishing school which trains students in life skills.

The school’s world class infrastructure includes an all-weather swimming pool, amphitheatre, multipurpose auditorium, equestrian facility, tennis, squash and basketball courts, state-of-the-art classrooms with digital learning facilities and computer labs which make learning seamless and unlimited. Winner of the National Excellence award for Progressive Education, Ecole believes in nurturing students to evolve into young ladies equipped to pursue and excel in their chosen fields.

Regular in-house training and periodic refresher programs ensure that the teachers are abreast of the latest teaching methodologies and assessment procedures. At Ecole, there is a constant emphasis at creating a stimulating environment for the students, which brings a defining new standard in education to the valley of schools.

GALGOTIAS UNIVERSITY DEVELOPS WORLD CLASS TECHNOLOGISTS



GALGOTIAS UNIVERSITY (GU) is led by renowned educators, researchers and thought leaders, and aims to develop future technologists who will take on the grand challenges of the world and drive economic progress. With five engineering schools and over 30 UGC (University Grants Commission) recognized UG and PG programmes, Galgotias University propels research and innovation, develops transformative technologies and cultivates solutions for a better world. The university has within a short span of time emerged as one of the premier educational institutions in

north India exemplified by various prestigious rankings from leading publications and surveys. Galgotias University’s faculties have been carefully handpicked from among the finest academicians across USA, Europe and Asia including India.

Galgotias University has tie-ups with leading global universities like Purdue University, USA; University of Arkansas, Fayetteville, USA; University of Maryland; Kent State University, Ohio, USA; and Northern Illinois University, USA, among others. This year Galgotias University students enjoyed a record-breaking 85 per cent round 1 placement (batch 2015).

WHY B-SCHOOL ASPIRANTS PREFER FMS-IRM



Stany Thomas Cangan, Chief Executive Officer, SIIRM Consortium of Institutions

FACULTY OF MANAGEMENT STUDIES - Institute of Rural Management, Jaipur is an energetic, innovative and research led business school in Rajasthan. With a modest beginning in 1994, it has traversed a long path to become an essential choice for thousands of B-School aspirants in the country. The institute was established and is led by the Society for Indian Institute of Rural Management (SIIRM) under the brilliant and noble leadership of Prof. Barbara Cangan, an educationist and philanthropist whose mission is dissemination and extension of knowledge with quality and equality, to eventually lead to an ethically built society. The Institute is offering two years' full-time Post Graduate Diploma in Management with thrust on

Business Management (PGDM- BM) and Rural Management (PGDM- RM). Possessed with a futuristic vision, FMS-IRM always seeks to bring, both the corporate and the academia, to a single platform for intellectual interface. The institute organizes campus based Management Development Programmes (MDPs), Corporate Trainings, Business Seminars and Conferences on a regular basis.

In addition, FMS-IRM organizes thought leadership lecture series with the participation of top notch business leaders and social thinkers for the benefit of its young managers. As a sign of its social commitment and new age thinking, in the year 2012, FMS-IRM instituted a Global Business Leadership award in the name of its founder Dr. Thomas Cangan.

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GITAM UNIVERSITY TO ESTABLISH FINTECH ACADEMY IN VIZAG



Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu exchanging the MoU document with GITAM University Vice-Chancellor Prof. MS Prasada Rao at the newly established FinTech towers.

THE GOVERNMENT OF ANDHRA PRADESH has signed an MoU with GITAM University to establish Center of Excellence set up and FinTech ecosystem skill building in Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh. The FinTech skill development center is first of its kind in the country. The Andhra Pradesh state government IT Advisor JA Chowdary and GITAM University Vice-Chancellor Prof. MS Prasada Rao exchanged the MoU documents in the presence of Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu.

DRIVING GROWTH IN IT

JETKING INFOTRAIN LIMITED, a ISO 9001:2008 certified company, is India's foremost computer hardware and networking institute. Founded in 1947 as an electronics manufacturing and training company it has evolved into a leading IT and IMS training institute. It recognized the rapidly changing IT landscape in India and has innovated its teaching and courses over the years. Jetking is committed to creating globally competent IT professionals through innovative teaching methods, advanced courses, exceptional faculty and thought leadership in IT education.

Its training and best practices are benchmarked along international lines. The company is grounded by the foundation and values of its past but it is youthful and progressive in its present and will continue to be so in the future. Enjoying a leadership position in the IT and IMS training sector, Jetking has trained more than 6,00,000 students who are constantly driving growth in the IT sector in India and abroad. With its promise of 100 per cent job guarantee across all its 100 centres in India, Jetking committed to a better life for its students, franchisees, recruiters and investors.

START YOUR OWN BUSINESS WITH JETKING

Today, an estimated 3.25 crore jobs are available in the Indian IT sector. With Smart Lab Plus, Jetking's holistic teaching methodology, students are moulded to become successful IT professionals. The Jetking team invites students to join them and create brighter futures

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+91 8422055373
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YEOMEN SERVICE FROM SURESH ANGADI EDUCATION FOUNDATION



Shri Suresh Angadi, MP and Chairman, SAEF

INDIA IS GOING THROUGH A HUGE TRANSFORMATION

and is at the cusp of a major revolution. In the light of these changes, there is a dire need of human resource which has a holistic mindset. Suresh Angadi Education Foundation (SAEF) aspires to develop strong

citizens who are future-ready to mantle leadership roles. The core philosophy of the foundation has

been that the focus of education system should be to actualize the potential of the individual. Education which embodies an inherent ability to think beyond the obvious has always been high on the agenda of the foundation. SAEF, established in 2008, has grown as an organization of repute comprising several institutes providing quality education and yeomen service. Today, the foundation has several courses in engineering, management, commerce and science. Besides, a school with a state-of-the-art facility has also come into existence.

NEWTOWN RISES TO THE CHALLENGE



THE NEWTOWN SCHOOL | KOLKATA
THE FUTURE BEGINS HERE

THE NEWTOWN SCHOOL is the first IGBC Gold Certified Green School in India under the new school category. The institution took its first step towards this journey of excellence, on April 16, 2015. The global technological landscape is evolving

at a frenetic pace. Information travels at a speed hitherto unanticipated, even a decade ago. The Newtown School (NTS), located amidst one of the fastest economically developing regions of eastern India, arrives at precisely this

cusp of global transformation.

The school seeks to blend academics with practical knowledge in a unique ecosystem. This amalgamation will be synchronized with values, which will transform each student into an asset for society. NTS has set a new benchmark in education through its approach towards the entire process of imparting education. The curriculum at NTS has been designed to inculcate a multi-dimensional approach in problem-solving through teamwork and research. NTS believes that every student is unique in terms of creative talent, interests and inclination. Hence, a customized approach towards each student nurtures each child into a confident individual, capable of coping with the challenges of tomorrow.

THE IMPORTANCE OF RIGHT EDUCATION

HOSPITALITY INDUSTRY is the most versatile and dynamic Industry, with an ever-increasing demand for trained professionals. Global food is now trending. The new generation is passionate about food – not just for consumption, but also as a lucrative avenue for entrepreneurship activities. Upsurge of technology in the food business has facilitated unprecedented growth in food-related apps, which have gained humongous popularity in current times of digital transition. In order to sustain in this competitive, fast paced and ever changing world of food business, only passion is not



Dr. Sonali Jadhav, Principal, AISSMS College of Hotel Management, Pune.

enough. Exposure and extensive training in culinary art and hotel management will help you in business operations and increase your power to sustain. It is a demanding profession, but being equipped with technical know-how will surely help you prepare for it.

CONTACT INFO

AISSMS College of Hotel Management & Catering Technology, 55-56, Shivaji Nagar, Pune 411 005
Tel.: +91 20 25520488 / +91 20 65002959
mail: info@aissmschmct.in
www.aissmschmct.in

GROOMING ERUDITE GLOBAL INFLUENCERS



SRM UNIVERSITY distinguishes itself from other universities of higher learning as a centre that offers

comprehensive and holistic experience of enhanced learning in an enriched environment. Within the precincts of institutions under SRM University over 40,000 students are engaged in the process of knowledge and personality development. Under the aegis of SRM University run four

campuses in Tamil Nadu and one in the national capital region (NCR) of New Delhi with a faculty strength of 3000, also comprising educators from foreign countries. With prime focus on engineering and technology, SRM University offers several subjects including medicine, dental and health sciences, management, pure sciences, social sciences, humanities and law.

Professor Prabir Bagchi, the new Vice Chancellor of SRM University unveils his mantra to run a mega educational enterprise, "I stress on the three 'R's or Rigor, Relevance and Research, which are critical to develop successful students."



SRM University has an enviable record of research, despite the fact that it commenced operations in 2002, particularly with regard to publication, productivity and funding obtained from the government and private bodies.

SRM University is one of the few institutions in India to have established a research institute to carry out outstanding research in numerous emerging and front-line areas.



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A CENTURY OF COMMITMENT

SEVEN TEACHERS SUPPORTED by three patrons founded the Karnatak Lingayat Education Society and established an Anglo-Vernacular School at Belgaum on November 13, 1916. Expanding to different domains of education, healthcare and research, and traversing wider geographies, KLE today has 250+ institutions, 1,25,000+ students, 4,000+ beds for healthcare services and 16,000+ employees. The visionary efforts of its present chairman, Dr Prabhakar Kore, MP, and his team of the Board of Management have heralded the emergence of a “Global KLE”. The KLE focus continues to be welfare of the poor and needy with over 60 per cent of its institutions based in rural and semi urban areas.

KLE provides education at pre-primary, school, pre-university, graduate, post graduate and post-doctoral levels in Technical, Health Sciences, Basic Sciences, Commerce, Humanities, Management, Law and professional education. The establishment of KLE Health Sciences University in 2006 and KLE Technological University in 2015 have paved the way for nurturing and empowering skilled professionals.

KLE Health Sciences University is part of the National Institutes of Health (USA), Global Network for Women’s and Children’s Health Research and the Reproductive Health Research network of the World Health Organization and has collaborations with several national and international agencies including the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation and UK Medical Research Council. Its innovative research initiatives are all aimed at improving the health status of mothers and children and have made global impact.