Transforming India's educational landscape

Amit Gupta's contributions to higher education have been marked by resilience, vision and transformative leadership

In India's dynamic educational sector, Amit Gupta, chairman of the JIMS Group of Institutions, stands out as a visionary leader. He started from modest beginnings but soon oversaw the expansion of a prestigious network of institutions, which is testament to his resilience, grit and dedication.

Hands-on approach

In 1997, Jagannath International Management School (JIMS) entered a new phase under Gupta's leadership, starting with a BBA program out of a rented building in GK2, New Delhi. Building on his father Jagannath's legacy, Gupta was determined to create an institution that would stand the test of time.

He personally managed admissions, distributed pamphlets and oversaw curriculum development. His hands-on approach was crucial in attracting students and building trust. "Success is not about sudden breakthroughs; it's about consistent, deliberate efforts," he has often said.

But the journey was not without challenges. Overcoming scepticism and financial constraints were significant hurdles, but his strategic foresight helped navigate major educational reforms and secure financial stability. The establishment of the Kalkaji campus in 2001, followed by expansions in Vasant Kunj and Greater Noida, marked significant milestones.

Despite setbacks, Gupta's resilience led to the founding of Jagannath Universities in Jaipur and Bahadurgarh, further expanding the JIMS legacy.

Amit Gupta's hands-on approach has been crucial in attracting students and building trust

Strategic collaborations

With a strong foundation as a Commerce graduate from Shri Ram College of Commerce and an MBA from the Indian Institute of Foreign Trade, Gupta aimed to bridge the gap between academia and industry.

A partnership in 2022 with Grant Thornton Bharat resulted in his vision to integrate industry relevance with academia. This led to the launch of an industry-integrated PGDM program at JIMS Kalkaji, ensuring industry-relevant education with guaranteed placements. Gupta also ventured into school education with the opening of St Xavier's School in 2020, which has become a reputed institute in Delhi NCR, and acquired the Indian School of Business and Finance (ISBF) in 2022, offering a degree in affiliation with the London School of Economics.

JIMS has also established international collaborations, including exchange programmes with NUS Singapore, enhancing global exposure for students.

Gupta said his leadership philosophy is rooted in empowerment and innovation. He believes in "fostering a culture of excellence where education prepares students for real-world challenges". His contributions to higher education have been recognised with numerous accolades, including the Shiksha Ratan Award, while his commitment to societal upliftment is evident through community-outreach programmes and scholarships offered for underprivileged students.

As JIMS enters its next phase of growth, Gupta's vision remains steadfast: He wants to create an educational ecosystem that not only adapts to the future but also shapes it. His plans include introducing cutting-edge programmes and strengthening industry partnerships to equip students with essential skills for the future. "Education is the key to unlocking potential," Gupta said. "And at JIMS, we're just getting started."

For more information about JIMS Group of Institutions and their programmes, visit https://www.jagannath.org/

Atishi rolls out student start-up initiative with ₹40 crore seed money

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

In a bid to encourage budding student entrepreneurs, Delhi Education Minister Atishi on Thursday launched the third edition of the Business Blasters programme with a seed money of ₹40 crore.

The programme was first introduced during the 2022-23 academic session.

Addressing a press conference, Ms. Atishi said the programme is expected to attract around 2.45 lakh students who will have an opportunity to turn their innovative ideas into start-ups.

The Minister said it may help find a solution to the country's unemployment situation if the students who drop out of Class 12 could provide employment to the youth through their business initiatives.

"This programme aims to promote entrepreneurship and self-employment among students, enabling them to become job creators rather than job seekers," she said, adding approximately 40,000 ideas and start-ups have begun working under the programme.

The Business Blasters programme is a Delhi government initiative that encourages entrepreneurship in school students. This year, 2.45 lakh student entrepreneurs of Classes 11 and 12 with 40,000 start-up ideas will be able to benefit from the seed money.

The top 150 start-ups selected are then opened for public investment.

'Hollow plan'

However, Delhi BJP chief termed the plan "hollow and laughable". "Ms. Atishi's claims of generating employment in Delhi are just as hollow as her other claims," he said. He said the Minister should clarify how many people have got jobs through the scheme.

What role does CSTT play in standardising technical terms?

What is the 'Shabd' glossary platform? How many terms are available on the portal?

Sreeparna Chakrabarty

The story so far:

In alignment with the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020, to impart education in the Indian languages for an improved understanding and improved teaching-learning outcome, the government has initiated technical education, including engineering and medicine in Indian languages. The All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) has introduced "AICTE Technical Book Writing and Translation" in 12 scheduled Indian languages. The government is also collaborating with technical education departments to distribute one set of books in Indian languages for the libraries of each degree and diploma-level institution. The Commission for Scientific and Technical Terminology (CSTT) has also launched a website offering technical terms in all 22 official Indian languages for various educational subjects.

What is CSTT?

The CSTT, established on October 1, 1961, focuses on preparing standardised scientific and technical terminology in Indian languages. It regularly publishes a range of bilingual, trilingual, and multilingual glossaries, definitional dictionaries, and monographs, besides publishing quarterly journals named 'Vigyan Garima Sindhu' and 'Gyan Garima Sindhu'. The CSTT also takes up the publication of university-level textbooks through its Granth Academies, textbook boards, and publication cells located in various parts of the country.

It also undertakes the publication of administrative and various departmental glossaries that are widely used by government departments, institutions, research laboratories, autonomous organisations, and public sector units besides organising workshops, seminars, symposiums, conferences, orientation, and training programmes to increase the use and popularise the standard terminology of Hindi and other Indian languages.

What is the name of the new website and how does it operate?

The CSTT glossary search website, "Shabd," is hosted at 'https://shabd.education.gov.in'. "Shabd" is a data server that features all the glossaries of CSTT in digital searchable mode. Other institutions or agencies preparing dictionaries can also host their work in digital form on this platform. The aim is to showcase a central repository for all the terminologies prepared in or for Indian Languages.

The platform allows users to search for scientific and technical terms in Indian languages and provide feedback on existing equivalents prepared by CSTT. The search options include language, subject, dictionary type, and language pairs. It also allows users to search specific glossaries or the entire collection.

What was the process of collating the words?

The CSTT prepares the terminologies through the Expert Advisory Committees consisting of subject and language experts, along with linguists, who are focused on finding out the equivalent terms in the specific subject areas and language. The terminology prepared by CSTT is used by Granth Academies, textbook boards, and publication cells for textbook preparation and is also used by institutions such as NTA, NCERT, NTM, AICTE, and so on. The "Shabd" website contains words taken from various definitional dictionaries, glossaries, and reference materials that have been published by the CSTT over the years.

When was the portal launched and what has been the response so far?

The site first went active in March this year and since then, it has had 1,36,968 hits from across the country and the world.

How many words drawn from how many subjects are available on the portal?

The entire collection which as of now includes about 322 glossaries has about (21,84,050) headwords. This covers disciplines in Humanities, Social Sciences, Medical Sciences, Engineering, Agricultural Sciences, and more than 60 subjects such as Journalism, Public Administration, Chemistry, Botany, Zoology, Psychology, Physics, Economics, Ayurveda, Mathematics, Civil and Electrical Engineering, Computer Science, Political Science, Agriculture, Culture, Transport, Geology, Capital Market, Cell Biology, Broadcasting, Music and Finearts, CSIT, AIML, Linguistics, Forestry, Entomology, Plant Pathology, Soil Science, Nematology, Sericulture, LIS, and others.

Prof Girish Nath Jha, Chairperson of CSTT, says, "The institution is working hard to enable Indian languages as per the huge mandate given to it by our government and our constitution. We hope to progress faster by using AI and related digital technologies in future".

THE GIST

▼ The CSTT is responsible for developing standardised scientific and technical terminology in Indian languages.

▼ The CSTT launched the 'Shabd' platform, a digital glossary search website that hosts all its technical glossaries in a searchable format.

▼ This platform serves as a central repository for scientific and technical terms in Indian languages, allowing users to search by language, subject, or dictionary type. It aims to make terminologies more accessible and encourages feedback from users to refine translations.

{ SEVEN STONES } WILL ALSO BE INTRODUCED IN SCHOOLS SOON

Madhya Pradesh adds street sport Pittu in sports calender of all colleges for its 'revival'

Shruti Tomar

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BHOPAL: Efforts to revive Pittu (a traditional game that goes by several names across India, including the generic "seven stones") received a boost with Madhya Pradesh introducing it as a sport for all colleges in Madhhya Pradesh for the academic year 2024-25, according to a government circular issued on September 6. A similar circular will be issued for schools soon, said a state government official who asked not to be named.

"Pittu is one of the oldest traditional games of India...It is believed to have originated in southern part of the Indian subcontinent. Lord Krishna also used to play this game with his friends which is mentioned in the Hindu religious text Bhagavata Puran written 5,000 years ago," said the note attached to the circular.

The note mentioned that after Prime Minister Narendra Modi mentioned about the game in his Mann Ki Baat in January 2021, state cabinet minister and BJP general secretary Kailash Vijayvargiya formed Pittu Federation of India to promote the sport.

To be sure, bodies to promote the game date back to 2008, and Goa, too has its own state level federation. The state also demonstrated the game during last year's National Games. There has been a Lagori World Cup in 2015-16, and even an Indian Premier League style league, but the game has never taken off until now.

According to officials, this is the third such decision which has been taken by the Mohan Yadav led Madhya Pradesh government to motivate students to learn about life and work of Lord Krishna.

In June , Yadav announced that life and work of Lord Ram and Lord Krishna will be taught in school and colleges by including it in syllabus. In August , the general administration department (GAD) issued an order to organise lectures on various topics based on the life and philosophy of Lord Krishna.

According to the game's rulebook, Pittu is played in 26 m by 14 m field by two teams of six players each (each team is allowed four substitutes). The game is played in two halves of 10 minutes each. The game revolves around a pile of seven different coloured tiles called Pittu, which has to be hit by a ball by a striker team.

An education department official familiar with the matter said the sport will soon be introduced in all schools in Madhya Pradesh.

"Pittu is a sport which was played by every Indian but is it played in Olympics, Asian Games, or Commonwealth Games? Why does the government want to waste the time of students?" asked Kunal Chaudhary, a Congress spokesperson.

A centralised focus to unlock R&D prowess

India's aspirations to be a global leader in research and development (R&D) have long been constrained by a chronic underfunding of its research infrastructure — less than 1% of its GDP. The Anusandhan National Research Foundation (ANRF) seeks to remedy this imbalance. Conceptualised as part of the National Education Policy (NEP), the ANRF aims to foster greater collaboration between academia, industry, and government, while encouraging public-private partnerships for transformative innovations. The ANRF is designed to provide sustained, centralised funding for research across disciplines. Historically, research funding in India has been inconsistent and fragmented. By consolidating resources and offering continuous support, the ANRF promises to free researchers from financial uncertainty, empowering them to focus on groundbreaking work.

One of its most ambitious goals is to bridge the long-standing chasm between academia and industry in India. While Indian academic institutions are no strangers to producing world-class research, much of this output has failed to translate into commercially-viable innovations. This disconnect has stifled the country's ability to harness its full innovative potential. The ANRF will promote deeper collaboration between universities and industries, by aligning research agendas with national priorities and ensuring that research outcomes are readily transferable to market. Industry players, in turn, will have the opportunity to shape research initiatives, ensuring that academic pursuits are both relevant and responsive to real-world needs.

The ANRF also recognises that the problems of the 21st century cannot be addressed through siloed approaches to research. Today's challenges are complex, requiring insights that cut across disciplines. In this regard, the ANRF places a strong emphasis on interdisciplinary research. By fostering collaborations across seemingly disparate fields, it intends to spur innovations that are not only groundbreaking but also adaptable to the rapidly changing demands of the modern world. This interdisciplinary approach positions Indian researchers to tackle some of the most pressing global challenges, such as the climate crisis, pandemics, and food security.

The foundation will develop the next generation of Indian innovators, through mentorship programmes, fellowships, and internships.

Importantly, the ANRF also seeks to decentralise research funding and opportunities, ensuring that talent from underrepresented regions has access to the same resources as those in metropolitan cities. India's vast and diverse population is teeming with untapped potential, and the foundation's commitment to inclusivity could play a pivotal role in bridging the urban-rural divide.

The foundation, however, is not without challenges. To succeed, it must navigate India's cumbersome bureaucratic processes. A frequent criticism of the country's research ecosystem is the inefficiency caused by administrative red tape, which often delays the disbursement of funds and stifles innovation. The ANRF will need to adopt a more agile approach to governance, ensuring that funds are allocated in a timely manner and that research isn't bogged down by administrative delays.

Moreover, transparency and accountability will be critical in mitigating the risks of misallocation of resources. The foundation must ensure that funding is distributed not only to top-tier institutions but also to underfunded universities and regional research centres. Only by embracing inclusivity can the foundation ensure that India's research efforts are truly national in scope.

The ANRF's success will also depend on its ability to align its research priorities with India's broader national goals. The foundation must ensure that its research agenda is in line with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Innovations in clean energy, agriculture, health care, and digital technology are essential for India's continued economic growth and its ability to address its most pressing societal challenges. Global collaboration will be another critical factor. The ANRF's emphasis on international partnerships will enable Indian researchers to exchange ideas, participate in global knowledge networks, and co-create solutions to global challenges.

ANRF's establishment marks a pivotal moment in India's evolution as a knowledge economy. Its impact, however, will not be measured by the volume of research it produces but by the tangible, real-world outcomes it enables. By fostering a culture of curiosity, critical thinking, and public engagement, it has the potential to inspire future generations of Indian scientists and innovators. Its success will depend on its ability to remain adaptable, transparent, and aligned with both national and global priorities.

Ashutosh
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India must embrace a hybrid model that aligns research with industry needs, and avoid the US path

Do Not Get 'Con Valleyed

Vivek Wadhwa

Narendra Modi recently launched the Anusandhan National Research Foundation (ANRF), marking a pivotal shift in India's research landscape. With a budget of ₹50k cr over five years, the initiative aims to transform India's research infrastructure by aligning academic research with industry needs, driving practical, solution-oriented innovation. The PM emphasised that India must focus on local solutions to global challenges, signalling a move toward directed basic research, rather than purely speculative work.

This is an exciting and visionary initiative. However, to succeed, India must avoid the pitfalls of the US research system, which, despite vast investments in basic research, is often disconnected from real-world applications. The US spends over $130 bn annually on academic research. Yet, much of it remains locked in the 'Valley of Death', where promising research never transitions into marketable solutions. As former dean of engineering at Duke University, Tom Katsouleas had told me, based on his work with the US National Academy of Engineering, 'Only about 1% of university patents are ever commercialised.'

The American research ecosystem is heavily focused on 'publish or perish' — a culture where academic researchers are incentivised to produce numerous publications to secure tenure and funding. This has created a glut of research papers, many of which lack practical value or impact. Most of this research is disconnected from industry and real-world problems, advancing academic careers, but offering little societal benefit. While programmes like Darpa (Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency) have had some notable successes, such as the internet, the majority of US basic research remains trapped in academic journals.

India cannot afford to replicate these inefficiencies. Instead, it must leverage its ability to blend basic research with practical applications — ensuring that innovations align with market and societal needs from the start

Re-search for answers to real challenges

— something it has already demonstrated it can do successfully as it did with its $254 bn IT industry. Companies like TCS, Infosys and Wipro didn't invent microchips or operating systems. But they built global empires by applying and integrating these technologies to solve real-world problems. This model — leveraging what already exists — is efficient, profitable and scalable.

One of the best examples of successful industry-academic collaboration in the world is at IIT Madras, led by V Kamakoti, with Mohanasankar Sivaprakasam and Jayaraj Joseph leading the Healthcare Technology Innovation Centre (HTIC). Instead of wasting time and money chasing scientific rainbows or reinventing the wheel, they partner with industry to adapt and apply cutting-edge technologies, producing affordable, scalable healthcare solutions tailored to India's needs.

HTIC has already developed transformative healthcare technologies, such as mobile surgical units that deliver cataract surgeries to rural areas, and diagnostic devices that enable early detection of eye diseases. The Sudha Gopalakrishnan Brain Centre, recently showcased by Nvidia, is pushing the boundaries of neuro-imaging and AI diagnostics, processing entire human brains into hi-res images at a scale that surpasses even the most advanced labs in the West. In addition to advancing brain health, it will provide new insights into how the brain functions, potentially leading to breakthroughs in cognitive science, machine-learning, and even the development of brain-computer interfaces.

When I visited IIT Madras earlier this year, I was blown away by the talent, world-class facilities, and their ability to connect with top scientists across India. I was so impressed that I decided to outsource the development of breakthrough technologies for my company, Vionix Biosciences, to them. Frankly, I told my friends and VCs in Silicon Valley where I live, that IIT Madras puts MIT, Duke, Stanford — and the Valley itself — to shame in terms of intellectual capacity, scale, ambition and readiness to collaborate.

I've been more than amazed by the progress IIT Madras has already made in building technologies that could never be built in the West. The last company that tried to develop what we're doing was Theranos, which burned through $1.4 bn on medical diagnostics that are nowhere near the advanced solutions IIT has already created — at a tiny fraction of the cost.

The World Bank, IMF and Western academics constantly preach to India that it must increase its investment in basic research. They point to India's R&D expenditure, currently just 0.7% of GDP, in stark contrast with countries such as the US and China, whose R&D investments respectively exceed 2% and 3% of GDP. Yes, India must do more research. But it must focus on the future rather than the past — as Westerners advocate and do themselves.

We are living in an era of exponential technologies — AI, robotics, sensors, synthetic biology, nanotech — that are converging to create trillion-dollar industries at an unprecedented pace. The foundational research required for these advancements has already been done. India's real challenge and opportunity lie in identifying the convergence of these technologies and driving innovation through practical applications. Vionix's partnership with IIT Madras — leveraging advanced AI, sensors and plasma technology to revolutionise medical diagnostics — demonstrates what can be achieved when India plays to its strengths.

Academics are usually trapped in silos and too focused on narrow, specialised fields. Silicon Valley is equally guilty — isolated in its bubble, throwing billions at redundant, incremental technologies with little real-world impact. If India focuses its research investments on convergence and implementation, it won't just follow existing paths, it will also set the global standard for the next wave of innovation.

The US spends over $130 bn annually on academic research. Yet, much of it remains locked in the 'Valley of Death', where promising research never transitions into marketable solutions

The writer is CEO, Vionix Biosciences

Outcry of the young

RICHARD MAHAPATRA

In the wake of stark economic insecurity, characterised by widespread unemployment, the record youth population across the globe is venting out its ire on multiple related issues

The world is currently home to 2.4 billion young people between the ages of 10 and 29—the largest generation ever

There are waves of protests sweeping across continents, from Asia to Africa to Europe to the Americas. The protesters predominantly are young; and their agendas varied—from regime change to high inflation. When one examines the agendas and the structure of protests worldwide, one broad picture emerges: these protests are informal by leadership and very much issue-based.

In Bangladesh, students staged protests in August to change the political regime; in India, the ongoing protests triggered by a doctor's rape and murder in Kolkata demand women safety in health facilities; and in Kenya the "Gen Z" forced the government to withdraw new tax proposals.

These protests are not steered by any chosen leadership. Rather, these movements are being fuelled and sustained by various developmental issues and steered by the youths.

This seems obvious at a time when the world by far has the largest youth population in history. The US Agency for International Aid (USAID) estimates that the world is currently home to 2.4 billion young people between the ages of 10 and 29. One can term it as the largest generation ever.

A recent study by UNICEF on youth protests amid the polycrisis says that the proportion of people, in general, willing to participate in demonstrations has "increased to its highest levels since the 1990s." However, since the turn of the 21st century, the UNICEF study asserts, "new trends that distinguish recent protests from those of the past have become more evident. Young people have played an important role in defining some of these patterns."

What are the issues that

The protests of young people are for a new development model which has not been defined or developed till now

drive the youth to lead such massive movements? There have been massive protests against globalisation in the early 21st century followed by outrage against economic hardship and more recently for democracy and freedom. Climate justice is also slowly featuring as a trigger for global mobilisation. In recent years, particularly after the pandemic, the cost-of-living crisis seems to be the dominant trigger. As per an estimate, between November 2021 and October 2022, as many as 12,500 protests and riots were recorded in 150 countries.

Most of these protests or riots revolved around inflation, energy cost and food shortages, and youths played a key role in them.

Social scientists and policy makers are trying to understand why the youths are so angry. Most assessments, including the one by UNICEF, point towards a young world, asserting against lack of basic survival means and the ineffectiveness of the current political system to respond to their needs. The overarching issue of most protests is economic security—simply put, employment and livelihood.

Many treat this as a sign of the current development model not being able to meet the aspiration of the generation. So, the protests are for a new development model which has not been defined or developed till now.

Some years ago, the International Labour Organization (ILO) taking note of the increasing restless among the youth noted, "The youth employment crisis, in all its manifestations, is not merely a transitory development related to sluggish economic growth, but it may become a structural trend if no significant policy changes are put in place."

Some interpret these protests as reflection of the youths' political profile or affiliation. A survey published in *sage Open* analysed data from 1 million people in 128 countries from the early 2000s up to 2017, and said, "Those under 40 were more likely to prefer informal political activities than those older than 40. Some believe this is because young people have greater interest in issue-based politics and action that requires no intermediaries, rather than in traditional, institutionalised politics."

The UNICEF study supports this change in outlook and role of engagement between the old and new generations.

"Global analyses have shown in recent years that older and younger cohorts have different views on democracy as a platform for political engagement. Compared with older cohorts, the youth have become increasingly frustrated by the inadequate performance of democratic institutions," it says.   DTE

Views expressed are personal

UP CM Yogi plays teacher's role, shares success 'mantra' with students of Atal Residential School

During his visit, he spent quality time with the students, admiring their innovative models and engaged with them in their classrooms

STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE
LUCKNOW, 12 SEPTEMBER

Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath interacted with students and gave them life lessons during his visit to the Atal Residential School in Sithauli Kala, Mohanlalganj .

He inaugurated the academic session 2024-25 for all 18 Atal Residential Schools in the state during a ceremony held here.

During his visit, he spent quality time with the students, admiring their innovative models and engaged with them in their classrooms.

Taking on the role of a teacher, the CM shared success mantras and replied to students' questions. He also took part in a group photoshoot with the students and captured a selfie with them, making the occasion even more memorable for the children.

CM Adityanath began his visit by viewing an exhibition of innovative models created by the students. The exhibition showcased devices such as a smart dustbin, a smart blind stick, an automatic street light, an obstacle-avoiding robot, and various art and craft pieces.

He praised and encouraged the students, who explained the features of their models to him. A girl even drew a picture of CM Yogi, which he signed.

The CM also engaged with the students and answered their queries. When one student enquired, "We recently participated in the Independence Day parade in Lucknow and received an award. Can we also be part of the parade in Delhi?" CM Yogi responded with a smile, "Yes, you will definitely be sent."

In another exchange, a student asked, "When you were in school, did you also get scolded for making mistakes?" CM Yogi, adopting

the role of a teacher, offered advice: "If a mistake is made unintentionally, it's not a fault but an opportunity for improvement. However,

repeating the same mistake continuously indicates a habit. Mistakes are natural when you're working, but persistent errors are not acceptable.

Work hard and stay focused, and you will see positive results." After the Q&A, CM Yogi took a group selfie with all the students.

During his visit, a girl expressed gratitude to CM Yogi for the excellent arrangements at Atal Residential Schools and asked if he had similar educational opportunities as a child. CM Yogi responded, "This initiative is the vision of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, and it has been created for your benefit. It is public money, and when used correctly, it results in valuable resources like this school. If it were misused, it wouldn't serve its purpose."

He added that 16 Atal Residential Schools have already been established, with two more in progress, and that plans are underway to build additional schools in 57 other districts. "This will benefit thousands of children. Remember, following the right path leads to success, while the wrong path leads to confusion."

The CM also mentioned that, aside from providing infrastructure, the UP government has set up a corpus fund for the daily operations of these schools, financed by the cess money collected from registered workers. "You should consider writing a

letter to Prime Minister Modi to express your thanks," he suggested.

During the event, CM Yogi announced a phase-wise plan to expand the schools, aiming to increase their number to 2,000.

According to him, in the second phase, such schools will be established as composite schools across various districts, while the third phase will extend this initiative to all 350 tehsils of Uttar Pradesh. In the fourth phase, such schools will be set up in 825 development blocks, and by the fifth phase, they will reach the Nyaya Panchayat level.

अनुसंधान को विकास से जोड़ने की पहल

बद्री नारायण

नेशनल रिसर्च फाउंडेशन भारत को विकसित बनाने के लक्ष्य को प्राप्त करने का एक महत्वपूर्ण माध्यम बन सकता है

पिछले दिनों नेशनल रिसर्च फाउंडेशन (एनआरएफ) की पहली बैठक हुई। इस बैठक में प्रधानमंत्री मोदी ने भी शिरकत की। नेशनल रिसर्च फाउंडेशन को पांच फरवरी, 2024 को एनआरएफ एक्ट बना कर स्थापित किया गया है। इसे "अनुसंधान नेशनल रिसर्च फाउंडेशन" यानी एनआरएफ नाम दिया गया है। एनआरएफ अब अपने मिशन की दिशा में बढ़ता हुआ दिख रहा है। उम्मीद है कि यह भारत में विकास एवं शोध के सूत्रों को जोड़ने का काम करेगा। विकास और शोध में गहरा संबंध होता है। सतत शोध विकास को दिशा देता है। यह जनजीवन पर पड़ने वाले प्रभावों का सतत मूल्यांकन कर विकास की गति, प्रक्रिया एवं प्रभावों की पड़ताल करता रहता है। भारत में आजादी के बाद से विकास की अवधारणा विकसित करने का काम राजनीतिक नेतृत्व, नौकरशाही, विद्वानों की टीम सार्थक रूप से करती रही है। इसमें शोध की भूमिका ज्यादातर परियोजनाओं के महज मूल्यांकन तक ही सीमित रहती थी। देश में विकास परियोजनाओं को संकल्पित करने एवं उनको कार्यान्वित करने में शोध की भूमिका बहुत महत्वपूर्ण नहीं मानी जाती थी। साथ ही विज्ञान एवं तकनीक के क्षेत्र में कुछ केंद्र और कुछ व्यक्तित्वों के इर्द-गिर्द ही शोध का दायरा सीमित रहता था।

1990 के बाद उदारवादी अर्थव्यवस्था लागू होने के बाद भारत में विकास का स्वरूप बदला एवं उसकी गति तेज हुई। 2014 में प्रधानमंत्री मोदी द्वारा देश की सत्ता संभालने के बाद विकास की यह गति और तेज हुई। विकास को एक मिशन मोड में लाया गया। इसमें राज्यसत्ता, सरकार, जनता, नेतृत्व के साथ ही उद्योग, उदारशील समूहों एवं कारपोरेट भी नए भागीदार बन कर उभरे। विकास के इस नए परिदृश्य में देश में शोध की जरूरत एक नए सपोर्ट इंजन के रूप में सबको महसूस हो रही थी। इसी जरूरत को पूरा करते हुए मोदी सरकार ने देश में शोध को विकास की एक आत्मिक दृष्टि के रूप में विकसित करने के लिए अनुसंधान नेशनल रिसर्च फाउंडेशन स्थापित करने का काम शुरू किया।

यह देखना सुखद है कि अनुसंधान नेशनल रिसर्च फाउंडेशन ने भारत में विकास को दिशा देने, उसे "आइडिया सपोर्ट" देकर उसे प्रभावी बनाने एवं उसकी सतत समीक्षा कर उसके प्रभावों को

एनआरएफ गवर्निंग बोर्ड की बैठक में पीएम मोदी ● प्रेट्र

सार्थक बनाने का काम करना प्रारंभ कर दिया है। सरकार की इस पहल ने देश में एक तो अभी तक बिखरे पड़े एवं अनेक तरह के शोध के प्रयासों को एकजुट एवं समायोजित कर उसमें नए भागीदारों को जोड़कर उसे सम्यक रूप से नियोजित कर विकसित भारत के महाअभियान से जोड़ने का काम किया है। दूसरा, इससे देश में शोध का न्याय संगत एवं जनतांत्रिक वितरण भी संभव हो पाएगा। तीसरा, इससे इंडस्ट्री, कारपोरेट, प्राइवेट शोध फाउंडेशन सभी एक मंच पर आकर एक साथ अपने विचार, आंकड़े एवं संसाधनों का आदान-प्रदान कर देश में विकसित भारत के महाअभियान में अपना योगदान दे पाएंगे। इससे अनेक प्रकार के शोध के संसाधन एवं स्रोत जो इधर-उधर बिखरे हैं, सब एक होकर विज्ञान, तकनीक एवं सामाजिक शोध के परिक्षेत्र को प्रभावी बना पाएंगे। एनआरएफ की शीर्ष समिति में शोध की महत्वपूर्ण संस्थाओं के शोध लीडर शामिल हैं। विज्ञान एवं तकनीक के क्षेत्र के अनेक बड़े विद्वान इस अवधारणा को जमीन पर उतारने के कार्य में लगे हैं। इसका एक महत्वपूर्ण लक्ष्य नवोन्मेषी शोध का एक ऐसा परिक्षेत्र विकसित करना है, जिसमें राज्य निर्देशित विकास की अवधारणा, परियोजनाओं एवं प्रयासों को जनता,

समाज एवं राष्ट्र के जीवन को बदलने में सर्वाधिक उपयोगी साबित हो सके।

यह जानना जरूरी है कि एनआरएफ न केवल विज्ञान, तकनीक, औद्योगिक उत्पादन, चिकित्सा के क्षेत्रों में ही शोध के लिए न्याय संगत, नवोन्मेषी एवं जनतांत्रिक इकोसिस्टम रचने का काम करेगा, बल्कि यह लिबरल आर्ट, समाज विज्ञान जैसे शोध को मानवीय एवं सामाजिक आधार देने वाले ज्ञान के क्षेत्रों में भी बदलाव लाने की कोशिश करेगा। इसके कारण नवोन्मेषी शोधों का एक ऐसा माहौल बन सकेगा, जिसमें भारतीय विश्वविद्यालयों एवं शिक्षा संस्थानों में शोध की पारंपरिक प्रकृति में आमूलचूल परिवर्तन हो सकेगा। इससे विश्वविद्यालयों में आमजन के जीवन से जुड़े मुद्दों और जरूरतों पर शोध के कार्य तो होंगे ही, साथ ही आम आदमी की लोक मेधा एवं जन-अंतर्दृष्टि को भी अकादमिक शोधों में महत्व मिलेगा। इससे शोध जगत में समाज को स्वयं एक शोध की प्रयोगशाला के रूप में देखने की प्रवृत्ति विकसित होगी। इससे एक ऐसा अकादमिक इकोसिस्टम बनेगा, जिसमें जन-विज्ञान, लोक तकनीकी, लोक ज्ञान, लोक चिकित्सकीय व्यवहारों को महत्व मिलेगा, जो एक तरह से राष्ट्रीय शिक्षा नीति-2020 का मूल आत्मा है। दुनिया के विकसित देशों में ऐसे रिसर्च फाउंडेशन कई दशकों से कार्य करते हुए उनके विकास को दिशा एवं दृष्टि दे रहे हैं। भारत में भी इधर-उधर बिखरे एवं अनियोजित ऐसे प्रयासों को एक सूत्र में जोड़कर विकसित भारत के मिशन में उपयोग किया जा सकता है। साथ ही इसके बनने से भारत में अकादमिक संस्थानों के शोधों एवं सरकार नियोजित विकास के बीच की दूरी कम होगी एवं उनके बीच संवाद होगा।

प्रसिद्ध फ्रांसीसी विचारक मिशेल फुको ने कहा है कि नालेज ही पावर है। इस वाक्य को थोड़ा बदल दें तो कहा जा सकता है कि नालेज ही विकास का आधार है अर्थात ज्ञान ही शक्ति का मूल स्रोत है। यह ज्ञान हमें अनुसंधान से मिलता है। प्रधानमंत्री मोदी ने 2047 तक भारत को विकसित बनाने का लक्ष्य रखा है। एनआरएफ उस लक्ष्य को प्राप्त करने का एक महत्वपूर्ण माध्यम बन सकता है।

(लेखक जीबी पंत सामाजिक विज्ञान संस्थान, प्रयागराज के निदेशक हैं)

शिक्षा को समावेशी बनाने पर एकमत हैं छात्र संगठन

उदय जगताप ● जागरण

नई दिल्ली: शिक्षा का व्यापारीकरण विद्यार्थियों के सामने चुनौती है। इससे निपटने के लिए सभी को साथ आना जरूरी है। जिससे विश्वविद्यालयों में लोकतंत्र कायम रहे और छात्र हितों की बात होती रहे। विद्यार्थियों की सक्रियता विश्वविद्यालयों तक सीमित न रहकर पूर्व में स्वाधीनता आंदोलन, आपातकाल और भ्रष्टाचार के खिलाफ आंदोलनों में बनी रही और आगे भी इसका जारी रहना जरूरी है। जागरण संवादी कार्यक्रम के पहले दिन के अंतिम सत्र में 'छात्र राजनीति और भारत' विषय पर अखिल भारतीय विद्यार्थी परिषद (एबीवीपी) के राष्ट्रीय मंत्री याज्ञवल्क्य शुक्ल, नेशनल स्टूडेंट्स यूनियन आफ इंडिया (एनएसयूआइ) के दिल्ली अध्यक्ष आशीष लांबा और आल इंडिया

कार्यक्रम में सत्र 'छात्र राजनीति और भारत' में संवाद करते (बाएं से दाएं) अभिज्ञान, आशीष लांबा, याज्ञवल्क्य शुक्ल और नवीन चौधरी ● जागरण

स्टूडेंट्स एसोसिएशन (आइसा) दिल्ली के अध्यक्ष अभिज्ञान ने विचार रखे। छात्र नेताओं से लेखक नवीन चौधरी ने चर्चा की।

एबीवीपी नेता याज्ञवल्क्य शुक्ल ने कहा, छात्र राजनीति नहीं, छात्र एक्टिविज्म है। जब यवनों का आक्रमण हुआ था तो राजाओं के बजाय विद्यापीठ के छात्रों ने मुकाबला किया था। आंध्र प्रदेश में लाल क्रांति ने खूनी खेल खेला तो छात्र शक्ति ने ही रोका था। वाम छात्र संगठन फलस्तीन की बात करते हैं, लेकिन बांग्लादेश में हिंदुओं पर हिंसा पर नहीं बोलते। एबीवीपी 140 करोड़ भारतीयों की बात करती है। राष्ट्रीय शिक्षा नीति ने हर भाषा को बढ़ाने काम किया है।

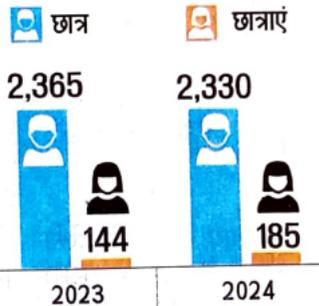शिक्षा में निजीकरण राक्षस के तौर पर बढ़ रहा है। डूसू चुनाव उत्सव है, लेकिन इसमें अधिक खर्च रुकना चाहिए।

एनएसयूआइ नेता आशीष लांबा ने कहा, नीट पेपर लीक हो या छात्र हित के दूसरे मुद्दे, एनएसयूआइ सदैव छात्रों के साथ खड़ा रहा है। फीस बढ़ोतरी के मुद्दे पर हम डूसू चुनाव लड़ रहे हैं। विश्वविद्यालय में लोकतंत्र खत्म हो रहा है, प्रदर्शन से पहले अनुमति लेनी पड़ती है। डूसू चुनाव में अधिक खर्च तभी रुकेगा, जब लिंगदोह की सिफारिशें सख्ती से लागू होंगी। आइसा नेता अभिज्ञान ने कहा, विश्वविद्यालय के छात्र मजदूर, आदिवासी, महिलाओं और दलितों की बात करते हैं। हमारे लिए भारत की यही परिभाषा है। डूसू चुनाव में धनबल चल रहा है और उसमें हम पीछे हैं, तो इसमें शर्म की बात नहीं है। डीयू में लगातार फीस बढ़ रही है और डूसू मौन है।

इंजीनियरिंग में छात्रों का वर्चस्व, छात्राएं पीछे

इंजीनियरिंग कोर्सेज में दाखिले के लिए आवेदन और एडमिशन के मामले में छात्राएं, छात्रों से काफी पीछे हैं। राजधानी के डीटीयू (दिल्ली प्रौद्योगिकी विश्वविद्यालय) समेत पांच इंजीनियरिंग संस्थानों में दाखिले के लिए इस साल छात्राओं की तुलना में छात्रों ने दो गुणा से ज्यादा आवेदन किया। इस बार कुल 32,972 विद्यार्थियों ने ज्वाइंट एडमिशन काउंसलिंग (जेएसी) के तहत आवेदन किया, जिसमें 23,121 छात्र और 9,851 छात्राएं शामिल रहीं। इस तरह इंजीनियरिंग के विभिन्न कोर्सेज में प्रवेश लेने में छात्राओं की रुचि कम दिखाई पड़ रही है।

डीटीयू में दाखिला पाने वाले विद्यार्थियों की संख्या

छात्र | छात्राएं

2023	2024
2,365	2,330
144	185

100 विद्यार्थियों में से केवल आठ प्रतिशत छात्राएं

दाखिला पाने वाले विद्यार्थियों की संख्या पर गौर करें तो छात्राएं बहुत पीछे रही हैं। डीटीयू में इस वर्ष विभिन्न कोर्सेज में 2,330 छात्र और केवल 185 छात्राओं को दाखिला मिला। प्रतिशतता के पैमाने से देखें तो 100 विद्यार्थियों में से केवल आठ प्रतिशत छात्राएं ही डीटीयू में एडमिशन लेने में सफल हो पाईं।

दो प्रतिशत ज्यादा छात्राओं का प्रवेश
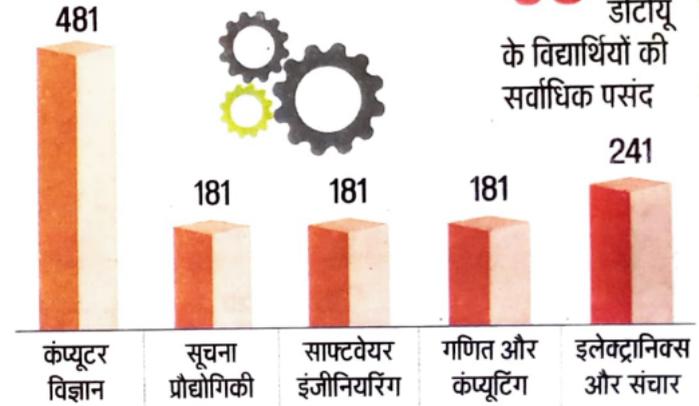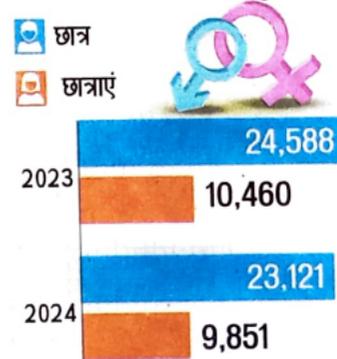
पिछले साल से तुलना करें तो यह आंकड़ा छह प्रतिशत से कुछ अधिक था। यानि, डीटीयू में इस वर्ष करीब दो प्रतिशत ज्यादा छात्राएं दाखिला लेने में कामयाब रही हैं। कमोबेश यही पैटर्न पिछले साल भी देखने को मिला। ज्वाइंट एडमिशन काउंसलिंग दिल्ली सरकार के पांच विश्वविद्यालयों व संस्थानों के लिए प्रवेश प्रक्रिया का आयोजन करती है। इन पांच संस्थानों में दिल्ली प्रौद्योगिकी विश्वविद्यालय के अलावा एनएसयूटी, आईआईआईटीडी, आईजीडीटीयूडब्ल्यू और डीएसईयू शामिल हैं।

डीटीयू में विद्यार्थियों के पांच पसंदीदा कोर्स

कंप्यूटर विज्ञान	सूचना प्रौद्योगिकी	साफ्टवेयर इंजीनियरिंग	गणित और कंप्यूटिंग	इलेक्ट्रानिक्स और संचार
481	181	181	181	241

05 विषय हैं डीटीयू के विद्यार्थियों की सर्वाधिक पसंद

रजिस्ट्रेशन में लिंग अनुपात

छात्र | छात्राएं

2023	24,588
	10,460
2024	23,121
	9,851

6.08 प्रतिशत छात्राओं ने पिछले वर्ष डीटीयू में लिया था दाखिला

7.95 प्रतिशत छात्राओं ने इस वर्ष डीटीयू में लिया है प्रवेश

छात्रों का दबदबा रहा कायम

दिल्ली प्रौद्योगिकी विश्वविद्यालय के विभिन्न कोर्सेज में दाखिला लेने के मामले में छात्रों का दबदबा इस वर्ष कायम रहा है। हालांकि इसके बावजूद पिछले साल की तुलना में इस वर्ष छात्राओं ने भी प्रवेश लेने में करीब दो प्रतिशत की छलांग लगाई है, लेकिन यह फिर भी छात्रों से बहुत कम है।

प्रस्तुति : धर्मेंद्र यादव | **जागरण इन्फो**