

A Weekly Journal of Higher Education
Published by the Association of Indian
Universities

In This Issue

ITEMS	PAGE
Articles	
A New Report for Policy Makers on Higher Education	3
Government-University-Industry Roundtables for Collaborative Research	7
Developmental Impact of Illegal Drugs on Students	9
Impact of Information and Communication Technology on the World of Instruction	11
Convocation	
Indian Institute of Technology, Kanpur	14
Campus News	16
Book Review	20
Theses of the Month (Humanities)	21
Advertisements	24

The Subscription Tariff

	Inland		Foreign	
	Institutions	Academics/ Students <i>(at residential address only)</i>	Airmail	Surface Mail
	Rs.	Rs.	US \$	US \$
1 year	950.00	375.00	210.00	170.00
2 years	1700.00	700.00	400.00	300.00

Subscription is payable in advance by
Bank Draft/MO only in favour of
Association of Indian Universities,
New Delhi.

**Opinions expressed in the articles
are those of the contributors and do
not necessarily reflect the views and
policies of the Association.**

Editorial Committee Chairman:

Prof Furqan Qamar

Editorial Committee :

Mr Sampson David

Dr Youd Vir Singh

Dr Sista Rama Devi Pani

Editor :

Dr Amarendra Pani

**A New Report for Policy Makers on
Higher Education**

G Palanthurai*

117
345

Last year a German publisher has brought out an anthology entitled 'India: Preparation for the world of work: Education System and School to Work Transition' edited by a Cologne University Business School Professor Matthias Pilz with the active support of the academics of India and other countries'. Focus of the book was on preparation of youth for the world of work and essentially all the articles analyse the process of preparing the youth through skill education for industry and service. It was released in IIM, Bangalore by the German Counsel General. While releasing the book, the German Counsel General has indicated the opportunities for India to become a supplier of manpower to the whole of the world requirement both for creation of knowledge economy and for service industry. To make use of the new opportunity, Indian federal government has to work with state governments synergically through an appropriate policy framework. It has to be done fastly and professionally. To wake up the slumbering the educational institutions an array of steps have been indicated in the course of his lecture. The idea for the publication of anthology was the outcome of an international conference held in Germany organised by Prof. Matthias Pilz in Cologne University from 22nd to 24th September, 2014. It was a well organised programme and well attended from all over the world. It was a programme organised seriously and meticulously under the title 'Comparative Vocational education and training' and in which I was asked to chair a session meant for India. There were different sessions in the conference meant for discussion on the practices of skill education in different countries. Indian scholars had made presentations in the conference about the skill education practices in India which was chaired by me. The scholars who attended the session have critically evaluated the papers presented in the conference on Indian experience in the light of the experience in other countries and mostly in the backdrop of the west European countries. In those presentations major challenges faced by India in skilling the youth have been captured. While summing up, I observed that the whole discourse is on skilling youth from the perspective of industry and service sector and not from the perspective of the informal sector where 90% of the workforce is in action. India to be become above middle income economy, the workforce in the informal sector has to be skilled professionally. This aspect is missing in the whole discourse not only in the conference where we presented papers in Germany but also in discourses in India on skill development initiatives.

At the end of the session, we had a meeting with Prof. Matthias Pilz and we mooted the idea of bringing out an anthology based on the presentations in the conference on India. He also readily agreed and approached a reputed publisher for publication. The publishing company

*Professor, Rajiv Gandhi Chair for Panchayati Raj Studies,
Department of Political Science and Development Administration,
Gandhigram Rural Institute, Gandhigram - 624 302