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# To Produce Globally Competent Professionals and Political Leaders: A Great Challenge before Indian Universities

B M Naik\*

Success in creating smart society, smart city, and smart village critically hinges on competency of professional and political leaders. In knowledge driven economy of today, Indian universities and colleges need to nurture leaders with latest knowledge and latest technology so as to ably manage its affairs at local, national and global levels. Do the Universities and colleges need globally competent professors?

## Synopsis

*Health of Indian economy and health of Indian industry depends on health of education in general and higher and technical education in particular. Only those who realise will win.*

India is grossly less educated country and so people in general are less productive. The productivity of people in India in comparison with the western world is far too low. To succeed in realising dream of India of creating smart society, make in India, digital India requires to improve education as a whole and especially higher and technical education to provide globally competent leaders in various professions and vocations besides in political system, to manage national affairs ably at local and international levels. This is essential so as to ably face challenges like shortages in drinking water, food, water for irrigation, power cuts, lack of transportation, poverty etc. Where do the globally competent leaders come from?

*Globally competent leaders normally come from classrooms not of mediocre universities and colleges but of world class. Hence world class universities have assumed significance, and so their ranking in world list.*

World experience tells us that universities and colleges have to be innovative in character, and creative in educating students not only in known knowledge and known technology but discovering what is unknown. Widening their vision and capability to continuously innovate and to increase student's imaginative power should be the priority. This essentially demands professors of global standing. Do we have strategies to upgrade professors to world class level? Do we have programs for transformation of universities by installing incubation centre, innovation centre, Research Park, patent centre, technology transfer centre etc. Universities have now not to be only education centres, but go beyond to

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\*Founder principal SGGS Nanded-Maharashtra, State Steering committee member [TEQIP] Government of Maharashtra, 23 Mehernagar, Garkheda, Aurangabad-431009. naikbm@gmail.com