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GLOBALISATION: IT AND EDUCATION

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Abstract

Today Success in the global market place means creating and applying new knowledge which is to say new technology is faster than one's competitors. World winners will be those who develop talent, technologies, techniques and tools so advanced that there is no competition. World experience tells us that now the economic development is knowledge / technology driven. The limiting factor for growth and prosperity of a nation is not oil, nor land, nor minerals but the scientific and technological capability of people. Industrialized nations by virtue of technological superiority are found capturing the world market and emerging as epicenter of interdependent world. Industrialized nations through knowledge especially of emerging technologies are amassing wealth. 80% of world's wealth is possessed by G-8 countries. World Bank observed that wealth is flowing today from developing to developed countries because of level difference in technology. Besides, advanced nations yield economic and political powers. Solow, the Nobel Laureate observed that the GNP of USA doubled between 1909 and 1949, and that 85% of the growth was attributable to technology change. Those nations, organizations and individuals exploiting the latest techology are likely to win-others may work hard, may have essential resources to draw on, but will lag behind without technological capability and adaptability.

Globalisation, IT and its relevance in India: True that India is a late starter in engineering and technology and so it lagged behind. However, after independence it has made a laudable progress. But, it has yet to go a long way. It is today distinctly a technology follower. The technology development plans of most of the companies in India are propelled by foreign collaborators. Universities and academic institutions are too weak in research, and innvoation. They have remained reflection centers teaching that knowledge which comes to them from abroad. The world proven Silicon valley was initiated by Prof. Terman of Stanford University. His principle is, "Industry so as to remain competitive globally needs access to first class research in Universities. So also the first class researchers in universities need access to industry so as to commercialize their research findings".

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Introduction

oday Success in the global market place means creating and applying new knowledge – which is to say new technology is faster than one's competitors. World winners will be those who develop talent, technologies, techniques and tools so advancerd that there is no competition.

World experience tells us that now the economic development is knowledge / technology driven. The limiting factor for growth and prosperity of a nation is not oil, nor land, nor minerals but the scientific and technological capability of people. Industrialized nations by virtue of technological superiority are found capturing the world market and emerging as epicenter of interdependent world. Industralized nations through knowledge especially of emerging technologies are amassing wealth. 80% of world's wealth is possessed by G-8 countries. World Bank observed that wealth is flowing today from developing to developed countries because of level difference in technology. Besides advanced nations yield economic and political powers. Solow, the Nobel Laureate observed that the GNP of USA doubled between 1909 and 1949, and that 85% of the growth was attributable to technology change.

Those nations, organizations and individuals exploiting the latest technology are likely to win-others may work hard, may have essential resources to draw on, but will lag behind without technological capability and adaptability.

Reforms:

Knowledge is power. It changes lives of people. It converts a liability in to an asset. The world, due to rapid advances in science and technology, is changing fast. Change is accelerated by globalization, privatization, and liberalization. Survival of the fittest in the competitive world is tending to become the law. People have to cope with high velocity environment on local and global places. Institutes of technical education, under these

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stormy changes, have not to perform the way they performed in the past. They have to depart from old style to enable the people to assimilate emerging technological advances and use them so as to win jobs and earn income in competition at world level. They have to facilitate increase in scientific and technological capability of people. It is they who produce scientific and research personnel to do discoveries. Institutes must have to be adaptive constantly changing, and using world class strategies. Courses, curriculum and methods of teaching need to change with times. Their visiions and missions, policies and practices, systems and procedures must have now to be constantly changing to fulfill local as well as global needs. World experience says Institutes ought to provide economic stimulus for regional development. Even political development of nations depends on capacity of institutions in what and how they teach.

Compatibility to Globalisation:-

Education must be world class to enable people to win in interdependent world. People are ready to pay for in terms of time, effort, and money. But Universities and colleges in India are not able to give. Why? This needs examination in depth. Their frame of work is old, out dated, primitive, and dysfunctional. They lack in creation of new knowledge, discoveries, and creative endeavors which are now the integral components of modern institutes elsewhere in the world. They lack in organizational capability. They lack in global visions and missions. That is why Indian institutes do not stand high in the world list, and thousands of students every year go abroad. From experience elsewhere in the world, it can be said that higher education has to be necessarily coupled with research and innovation. Multifaceted research facilities like, technology incubation, patent & IPR, start ups entrepreneurship, Research Parks have become now the integral components. They are observed to have a deeper impact on quality of education. Quality in Institutes is now critical and related to improving economic and political security of India.

Multifaceted Aura:

Technical education institutes have no longer to be simple. They have to be reformed much beyond class room teaching and learning. They have to be necessarily multifaceted complex organizations in part driven by technology and, in part mirroring other organizations in the world. Increasingly, they have to cater to peoples demands such as

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research skills i.e. generation of new knowledge, technology innovation, patenting & IPR, lifelong education, technology incubation, technology transfer, entrepreneurship, start up companies, venture capital etc. It is these aspects whose presence in campus is adding to institute's reputation. They create and add tremendous value in learning environment. Students at UG, PG and doctoral levels get thereby inspired to dream high, learn even that which is beyond curriculum and learn to be innovative and creative to take paths not trodden by their predecessors. Research, patent & IPR, entrepreneurship etc enable to get more value out of investments in an institution. They increease the financial rate of return. Institutes becomes more viable. They succeed in attracting more and more funds.

New India, New Vision :-

Waves of technology are sweeping the world. Now is the time for India to dream big and take a jump start in creation of new technology. Do we want Indian brands of technology? Or do we want to follow the foreign brands like in the past? Indian brands require creation of hi-tech enterprises, technology and business incubators, entrepreneurship, research parks, Patent & IPR,venture Capital Fund, Cointinuing education Centers. etc. Enterprising institutes have a deepr impact on improving the quality of education making it more relevant and purposeful. There is a scope for beyond conventional horizons to what their counterparts elsewhere in the world are doing.

Indian universities and colleges must have to study the strategies, visions and missions adopted by world at its best. Internationalization should become the trend. Can we create world class centers of excellence? This will decide India's future.

The Indian economy can flourish only if there is a culture within the country which is favorable to innovation and technology transfer. Is finance for innovation available? The priority given to S & T in national budget, although increasing, is still far from adequate. Research, education, and industry are isolated from each other, which constrain their growth. Venture capital is not available for innovation in universities and there is a fear for failure. How many patents are obtained every year by each university / college? How many NTBFs are born in University? How many pioneer technologies are developed? These are the pertinent questions now to be asked.

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India dreams to become a technology power in the world which could be made possible by adopting world's best policies and practices and not without them. The sermons of National Knowledge commission must forthwith be heard and implemented.

Institutions must be governed, managed and maintained by following world proven academic principles. Permitting mobility of professors and establishing transnational collaborations between the institutions is essential. Professors should be enabled to rise to international standard for which suitable schemes must be designed.

"The success in international competition depends now on turning intellectual strength into marketable commodities."

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