

## Newspaper Clips

January 12, 2012

Asian Age ND 12-Jan-12 P-6

# Another NRI shines

**T**he appointment of IIT-Delhi alumna Soumitra Dutta as the new dean of Cornell University's business school is just the latest example of Indians getting top jobs in global outfits, in this a prestigious Ivy League institution. There are many Indians heading business corporations — Pepsi, Citibank and Deutsche Bank among them — and of late there have also been top appointments in academia, such as at the Harvard Business School and Chicago's Booth School of Business.

Most if not all these professionals finished their basic schooling and early college studies in India, and then obtained higher degrees at Western institutions, thus getting wide and varied education and experience. Indians also tend to bring a good understanding of multiculturalism, given the diversity in this country. This is a handy asset in today's global workplace, as institutions and corporations look to expand their operations and reach. Many international firms now understand the importance of bringing in people from different backgrounds — not just as a "face" but to steer these organisations in an increasingly complex world. The statement by Cornell's president that Dutta is a "natural fit" for the school's global outlook sums it up well. Of course, in the end, it is sheer merit that counts: in this respect Indian top bosses, whether in companies or academia, are well equipped too. They are the new global citizens, who just happen to be of Indian origin. Today's world recognises no frontiers, neither geographic nor ethnic, where skills are concerned; and Dutta's appointment underscores that.

# IIT-Delhi alumnus named dean of Cornell University's business school

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA  
New York, 11 January

IIT-Delhi alumnus Soumitra Dutta has been named the new dean of the Ivy league Cornell University's business school, joining a growing list of noted Indian-origin academicians assuming leadership roles at prestigious global universities.

Dutta, 48, is the first Indian-origin dean at the 66-year old Samuel Curtis Johnson Graduate School of Management. He will become the 11th dean of the New York-based Cornell University's business school when he begins his renewable five-year term on July 1.

He is currently a professor of business and technology and founder and faculty director of a new-media and technology

innovation lab at INSEAD's French campus, where he has been for more than 20 years. Johnson becomes the first major business school in the United States to hire a dean from a business school outside the country.

Cornell president David Skorton termed Dutta's appointment as a "natural fit" with Johnson's increasingly global outlook. Dutta "has expertise in new and emerging media, he has studied the conditions that promote innovation and he has extensive experience on the international stage. Among other qualities, these prepare him well to oversee the education of our next-generation business leaders and entrepreneurs," Skorton said.

The university's Provost Kent Fuchs said Cornell used recruit-



Soumitra Dutta. PHOTO: BLOOMBERG

ing firm Spencer Stuart and a 12-person search committee comprising alumni, students

and administrators to select the new dean.

Dutta emerged the winner out of the two finalists. Dutta received his bachelor's degree in electrical engineering and computer science from the Indian Institute of Technology and did his master in business administration, computer science and a PhD in computer science from the University of California-Berkeley.

"This appointment is an exciting opportunity for me, in part because of Johnson's commitment to global perspectives, entrepreneurship and innovation, and business sustainability, but also because as an early adopter of approaches such as performance learning, the school itself exemplifies innovative thinking in business," Dutta said.

Financial Express ND 12/01/2012 P-1

## IITs buck slowdown with more recruiters, higher pay

Kirtika Suneja  
New Delhi, Jan 11

WHILE the Indian Institutes of Management (IIMs) struggle to place their graduating students in adverse economic weather, job offers are pouring for tech grads from the Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs) from recruiters old and new.

Almost a month after its placement process started, IIT Madras has placed 63% of the 1,208-strong batch. For some US placements, the annual compensation offered was as high as \$135,000 while domestic companies

offered ₹4-15 lakh. Two to three companies visit the IIT Madras campus every day for recruitment.

IIT Kanpur is placing almost 1,000 students this year. About 150 companies with 200 profiles have already visited while 50 companies are still in the queue.

"Pocket Gems, a US-based mobile app developer, paid \$140,000. Multinationals like Google and Facebook offered very close to the highest figures," the institute told FE in an email.

At IIT Guwahati, social networking giant Facebook made the biggest offer at ₹75 lakh. More than 85 firms

have visited the campus till now. Around 366 BTech and 269 MTech students are appearing for placements this year and the total number of students including BTech, MTech, MSc and MA is 828.

"Placements look very

good and the majority have been placed. We are confident the rest will also be placed soon. Compared with last year, there is definitely an increase in terms of the number of organisations visiting in December itself

for recruitment and the average package being offered," said Siddharth Mukherjee, general secretary, placements, at IIT-Guwahati.

The highest package at IIT Kharagpur was around ₹24 lakh while the average was

₹8-9 lakh. First-time recruiters included Flipkart, Snapdeal, Transocean and WorldQuant.

The scenario at the IITs is clearly different from the IIMs which are bracing for a tough placement season and are approaching a greater number of companies, besides offering placement holidays to students.

"In terms of number of recruiters, figures are similar to last year's but they are way ahead in terms of average salaries offered, which is a positive sign," said IIT-K's placement committee.

After core engineering companies, information

technology (IT) firms were the largest recruiters while the FMCG sector made a quiet foray in the process.

IIT Bombay, on the other hand, saw an increase in the number of international companies like Microsoft, Sony, Goldman Sachs, Google, Facebook, Boston Consulting Group, Shell and Schlumberger.

First-time recruiters at IIT Madras included Sony, Pocket Gems, Honda, NTT Communications, Hyundai Motors, Paypal and WS Atkins, among others while Airbus, EMC, PowerGrid, Ericsson and Tata Power hired from IIT Guwahati for the first time.



Demand for technical skills is always on the rise and doesn't drop drastically (even in a downturn). But managerial skills are top heavy and need to be balanced with high salaries which industry can't afford now as the economic scenario isn't stable.

Rituparna Chakraborty,  
Teamlease Services' co-founder and vice-president

# India's educational opportunity

The current framework allows JVs between foreign and Indian educational institutes in the K-12, HEI and NFI segments. These should be exploited post haste



**SAI ANTON BASU AND  
SIMON BICKERDIKE**

India is at a critical juncture today. On the one hand, it is a fast-growing economy waiting to take its position as a global force. On the other hand, India faces the challenge of leveraging its vast demographic potential by educating and training over 130 million people in the 18-24 age group with skills relevant to the demands of a modern economy. It is truly a mammoth task, one that the current funding models may not be able to accomplish without the participation of the private sector and international financial and strategic partners. As India's current spend on education is at 5% of average household income, it possibly makes it the most attractive counter-cyclical industry for foreign investment in the current economic climate.

The education sector in India can be broadly classified into three segments:

- **K-12:** The term K-12 stands for kindergarten plus 12 years of schooling. The average child will enter kindergarten at three years of age and, after spending two years, will continue on to 12 years of schooling before he/she is ready for higher education.

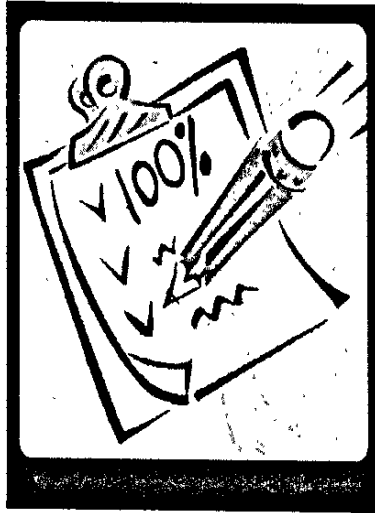
- **Higher education institutions (HEIs):** The HEIs then take over the provisioning of undergraduate, graduate and vocational level university education.

- **Non-formal institutions (NFIs):** The non-formal education segment includes pre-schools (18 months to three years), coaching classes, multimedia/information training schools and colleges, vocational training and the educational materials market.

The K-12 and HEI segments can further be broadly subdivided into the public and private spheres, with the former receiving government grants and the latter being funded by private institutions. The supply of public education is, however, inefficient and leaves a signifi-

cant shortfall, which is fast being filled by private education institutions. Although 100% foreign direct investment through the automatic route has been permitted in the education sector since 2000, the present legal structure in India does not allow granting of degrees by foreign educational institutions in India, thereby restricting independent operations by foreign players in India.

There is recognition within the government echelons that the demand-supply gap in the education sector has to be bridged through opening up participation from international players. As a result, it is exciting times for the sector



with many changes in the offing. The Indian government has set in motion comprehensive reforms of the education sector to completely restructure the legal and regulatory environment of higher education. Several important bills—relating to accreditation, foreign universities, educational tribunals and unfair practices—have been introduced in Parliament. However, political opposition has stalled the legislative progress of some of these measures, leaving a complete deregulation of the HEI segment in a state of flux.

That said, the current legal and regulatory framework does provide opportunities for joint ventures between foreign educational institutes and Indian institutions in the K-12, HEI and NFI segments. Further, the NFI segment is particularly ripe for foreign investment and for forging strategic alliances, as this

operates outside the regulatory mechanisms for the K-12 and HEI segments, which have hindered direct participation by foreign players in the past.

Since its commencement in 2006, the bilateral synergy facilitation body, the UK-India Education and Research Initiative (UKERI), has concluded 182 UK-India partnerships across higher education and research, schools and professional and technical skills, involving 600 institutions.

Careful planning, budgeting, research and due diligence exercises are required to establish the basic foundations of the joint venture. The parties' respective contributions and rights, governance protocols, budgets, deadlock and dispute resolution mechanisms, exit routes, termination and other fundamental elements will need to be understood at the outset of the venture. Listed companies have a number of additional formalities and requirements to consider prior to entering into a joint venture. These include class tests and other legal requirements that impact on some of the more common provisions used in joint ventures such as options and exit provisions.

The education sector in India is closely guarded by the government and several judicial pronouncements have added a very loosely defined "not for profit" tag to it. Accordingly, investments need to be carefully structured so that they cannot be construed as profiteering from students by the ever zealous regulators. Early stage tax and regulatory advice is a must so that such pitfalls can be worked through in a manner that befits the way investments can be made.

Further, conditions that need to be satisfied before the transaction can be completed must be carefully factored into joint venture negotiations and documentation. They commonly include third-party consents for key contracts, properties, regulatory and competition approvals. Since June 1, 2011, all joint ventures and acquisitions satisfying the asset and turnover thresholds in India must be approved by the newly empowered Competition Commission of India and, as such, this needs to be factored into all transaction timelines.

*Sai Anton Basu is co-head, India Group, and Simon Bickerdike is partner, Penningtons Solicitors LLP*

Hindu ND 12.01.2012 P-9

# 'Private sector must support scientific research too'

Education and research institutions must spend more time in interacting with the industry, says Infosys chairman emeritus N. R. Narayana Murthy.

Five months after he stepped down as chairman of Infosys, N.R. Narayana Murthy speaks to Divya Gandhi about the Infosys Prize – the third edition of which was awarded on Monday – that he conceived to encourage science and social science talent. Mr. Murthy also offered his views on corporate India's role in encouraging science research, its engagement with politics and the problems that face the nation, including corruption.

**It has been three years since the Infosys Science Prize was instituted. What has its impact been?**

I am happy with the way the Infosys Science Prize has evolved...I must admit three years is too short a period to assess the impact. But we are very happy that we have a fine jury panel and jury chairs, and that they have selected a world class set of researchers [for the awards] every year.

There are ways of gauging the impact of such initiatives in the future: by the number of PhDs you produce and by the quality of PhDs, by the number of patents, number of papers in refereed A-Class journals, and papers presented in A-Class conferences. But of course we cannot say that this is because of a single initiative.

**The Infosys Science Foundation has set out to encourage scientists with the awards but this does leave unresolved the question of science education. There is criticism, for instance, that private industry is interested in education to the extent that it addresses its own needs. What are your views?**

Of all the companies I know of, Infosys probably spends the highest percentage of revenue on education and research. We have the world's largest corporate sector training centre. We also have the world's longest training programme for software engineers (29 weeks). And we have instituted the science prize in six



**N.R. NARAYANA MURTHY:** "As long as there is culpability in the corporate sector, certainly I think the corporate sector will have to answer questions." – PHOTO: K. BHAGYA PRAKASH

categories, with the humanities introduced this year. I believe this company is an education friendly and research friendly one.

**The Prime Minister recently said that private industry is not devoting enough resources to R&D, implying that public funding still bears the bigger burden of R&D funding. Can this change?**

The Prime Minister is right. It is the responsibility of both the public governance system and the private sector to enhance the focus on research. To do that, I believe education and research institutions must spend more time in

interacting with the industry in understanding their problems and in solving their problems.

**What are the key problems in the software industry that science can help solve?**

There are several areas where such collaborations can take place. For example, there is a lot of research that needs to be done in performance engineering, modelling of software systems, on requirements definition. There is a lot of research being done on improving collaborative, distributed software development models. These are key problems

specific to Indian software companies.

**At the Indian Science Congress a few weeks ago, the Prime Minister had expressed concern that India's position in the world of science has been overtaken by countries such as China. He sought an increase in spending on scientific research to two per cent of the GDP. What more do you think can be done to encourage scientific research and innovation?**

I think I agree that we must enhance allocation for research from the current 0.9 per cent of GDP to perhaps 2.5 per cent of the GDP. And that contribution must come from the public governance system and the private sector, there is no doubt about that.

Having said that, [while] the need of the day is clearly money, we have to empower our research institutions and we have to provide full autonomy to institutions. We must create a platform like the National Science Foundation (an independent United State's government agency aimed at promoting science and engineering). The Indian Parliament passed a bill six years ago to constitute a similar agency, but it has not yet been created.

**Do you think an anti-corruption law must include corporate corruption in its ambit?**

As long as there is culpability in the corporate sector, certainly I think the corporate sector will have to answer questions. But I do not know if every transaction in the corporate sector must be vetted by some outside body. If the corporate sector is seen to have done something wrong in its interaction with the public governance system, then of course they are answerable. But this cannot be monitored by an external institution. We have a corporate governance system and shareholders. So we do have a pretty good foundation in shareholder democracy.

# Engineering jobs favoured in IITs

Many students decline the lucrative finance sector to opt for jobs in core-engineering sector as it offers job security and good pay

KALPANA PATHAK  
Mumbai, 12 January

Larsen & Toubro chairman A M Naik has a recurring complaint: students of India's biggest engineering colleges traditionally give the manufacturing sector a miss. "No one wants to dirty their hands in the shop floor; everyone seems to be interested in fancy consulting or information technology jobs," he says. That's the reason why one of India's biggest capital goods giant to the campuses of lesser known institutes for recruiting talent.

Naik would be happy to know that things seem to be changing — at least this year. Many students, say IITs, are declining lucrative finance jobs and opting for employment in the core-engineering sector. At IIT Bombay for instance, of around 500 students remaining to be placed, most are waiting for an engineering company of their choice to visit the campus for placements.

"This year, we have seen that many students are waiting to join engineering companies. Even our brightest of students, whom consulting and finance companies would have picked up easily, have decided not to sit for an interview with finance companies," said Ravi Sinha, IIT-B placement head.

A total of 1,383 students have registered for placements with IIT-B, where 200 companies will participate. Last year, IT and management consulting was among the best options at IIT-B. This was followed by finance. During 2010-11 placement season the number of offers in the finance sector went up from 70 to 91, and 95 offers were made by the consulting sector to IIT-B students. Sixty-nine offers were accepted from the research and development (R&D) firms,

## SAFE BET

- Students are declining lucrative finance jobs for engineering jobs
- Job security is playing on the mind of students
- Students opting for jobs in technology, auto and engineering sectors
- IITs have seen a 10-20 per cent increase in salary levels
- Placements to go on till June 2012

up from 54 in 2009-10. At IIT Roorkee, around 650 students out of the 1,200 have been placed so far. The institute said that of the 650 students, around 150 of them opted for a non-finance job profile. "A lot of our students this year decided not to sit for job interview with finance companies. The students, I think are looking at this from a stability point of view. Many say they would join a financial organisation post a management degree. Many know that the market situation, specially with the finance sector, is not good enough," said P K Jain, placement chairperson at IIT Roorkee.

At IITs, over 140 companies will be visiting the campuses to recruit over 1,200 students. The IITs have seen students opting for jobs in technology, auto and engineering sectors at companies, including Microsoft, Shell, Schlumberger and Facebook, etc. Facebook made the biggest offer at ₹65 lakh on the campus.

Indian IT majors — Tata Consultancy Services, Infosys Technologies and Wipro Technologies — would be visiting the campuses shortly.

The IITs have a placement rule wherein a student is allowed to sit for placement only if the student wishes to take the job. So, if a student sits for placement with a consulting firm and he gets selected, he cannot decline the job offer. "We do not want students to waste the company's time and also waste a job offer. This spoils the institute's name as well," added a placement chairperson.

At IIT Kharagpur, it's the same story. The institute's placement head says students are largely applying for jobs in core sector companies. "Students say they prefer waiting for the right engineering firms to visit the campus for placements, but they are not ready to join a financial sector player even if the pay package is much better than what an engineering company has to offer," said the placement head at IIT Kharagpur. Facebook made the highest offer of \$1,25,000 at Kharagpur.

The IITs, by and large, have seen good placements on the campus this season. "We have decided to wait for good engineering companies to come on campus and sit for placements. We interacted with a few of our seniors and learnt that the finance sector may not be a safe bet. Engineering not only offers you a good package but also job security," said a student of IIT Madras where a similar trend is seen.

At IIT Madras, companies from Korea and Japan will also participate in this year's final placements. Over 1,200 students will seek jobs during the placement season.

The IITs say they have seen a 10-20 per cent increase in salary levels for students. The premier institutes began their final placements on December 1 which will go on till June 2012.



## Hindustan Times

Title : Alumni meet

Author :

Location :

Article Date : 01/12/2012

## Alumni meet

At its 9th annual alumni meet, the Indian Institute of Technology, Kharagpur (IIT KGP), honoured six of its alumni with distinguished service award. IIT KGP director Prof Damodar Acharya handed over the awards. The recipients included Yatinder Pal Suri, country head of the Finnish group, Outokumpu, who is also president of the IIT KGP alumni association, North India. The other recipients were Dharam

Vir, ex-chief secretary, Haryana, and state election commissioner of Haryana. Jaideep Sarkar, the private secretary to the prime minister, Pronob Kumar Guha, managing director at Gibraltar Airsprings Pvt Ltd, and secretary of IIT Foundation India, Roy Dasilva, president of IIT Foundation USA, and Shyamal Roy Chowdhury, a US based photojournalist and entrepreneur.

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# **COMMON TEST FOR MANAGEMENT TWICE FROM '13**

**AGE CORRESPONDENT  
NEW DELHI, JAN. 11**

The All India Council for Technical Education has decided to conduct the newly-introduced online Common Management Admission Test twice a year from 2013.

The step has been proposed in an effort to make the test more popular among students. The online test will be held for the first time from February 20 to 28 this year for admission to AICTE approved management institutes.

"The aim of holding the test twice a year is to help candidates pick the best of the two CMAT scores for admission instead of having to wait for another one year," AICTE chairman S.S. Mantha said.

"While the first test would be held in February, the second one could be held in the month of August or September," he said.

Times of India ND 12-Jan-12

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# CAT results: 9 notch up 100 percentile

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

**New Delhi:** The Indian Institute of Management declared the results for the Common Admission Test (CAT) 2011 on Wednesday, in which nine aspirants have notched up a 100 percentile. Around 1.85 lakh candidates took the test over a 20-day period across 36 cities starting mid-October, 2011.

The toppers included Shashank Prabhu, a student of Faculty of Management Studies, who reappeared for CAT despite securing a seat in a pre-

mier B-school. Prabhu said, "I didn't manage to do so well last year, which shattered many expectations. I wanted to prove a point, which I could this year." But he is yet to make up his mind about which B-school he wants to get into, or if he is going to leave FMS midway.

On the fact that joining an IIM would mean he will lose out on a year, Prabhu said, "Whatever you do is never a waste. I have learnt many things in the last one year."

Shikhar Goyal from Sri Venkateswara College scored

97 percentile despite over 50% visual impairment. Goyal, who is from Hisar in Haryana and comes from a business family, said, "I applied myself to the preparations without worrying about the score." He was provided a scribe during the test. The study material provided by the teachers at his coaching centre helped him crack CAT, added Goyal.

The IIMs and several other B-schools, including the management studies departments in the National Institute of Technology and the Indian In-

stitute of Technology, subscribe to CAT score. The IITs and FMS decided to accept CAT scores this year.

The convenor of CAT 2011, professor Janakiraman Moorthy of IIM Calcutta, said the IIMs will start calling candidates for the next stage of the admission process with immediate effect. "Some IIMs may come out with the list from this evening itself. Within a week, all the IIMs would have sent out mails to prospective candidates," he said. About the results, Moorthy said: "While

nine aspirants scored 100 percentile, 1,800 candidates scored 99 percentile and above." Vinayak Gupta, a student of economics (H) with SRCC who scored 99.89 percentile, said: "The 15-minute trial was a great help, and the test was better organized."

This year, many of the new IIMs, including those in Tiruchirapalli, Udaipur and Raipur, have increased their intake from 70 to 120. This will improve the chances of making it to the prestigious institute.

Times of India ND 12-Jan-12

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# Newage copycats get smarter with hi-tech gadgets

**Dwalpayan Ghosh & Manash Pratim Gohain | TNN**

**New Delhi:** While the AIIMS entrance scandal has turned the spotlight on cheating in high-profile institutions, academicians and police sources say the use of unfair means has grown rampant generally in recent years. And the trend is global. A survey done by an American institute in 50,000 colleges and 18,000 high schools across the world found that 70% students cheat. In 1993, cheating was not so prevalent — 56% — while in 1963 only 26% students had used unfair means in exams.

around for answers is not so common now as multiple sets of question papers have been used in exams since the '90s," says MC Sharma, controller of exams, Central Board of Secondary Education. He mentions two instances of examinees declaring they have chicken pox, only to get inside the mosquito net and start texting.

In higher institutions, cheating is now done with gadgets. In 2005, the authorities were shocked when 21 students scored identical marks in physics in the Delhi College of Engineering entrance exam. A CBI enquiry found a former DCE

# आने वाले कल की शिक्षा



**नारायणन  
रामास्वामी**

लेखक प्रोफेसर  
सर्विज्ञान केंद्र  
केरल विश्वविद्यालय  
पट्टनमूर है।

यदि भारत को अपनी युवाशक्ति को संपूर्ण संभावनाओं का दोहन करना है तो उसे दो लाख नए स्कूलों, 50 हजार नए कॉलेजों और एक हजार नए विश्वविद्यालयों की दरकार होगी।

**आज** भारत विराट आर्थिक और राजनीतिक परिवर्तनों की दहलीज पर खड़ा है। पिछले कुछ समय में राष्ट्रीय और अंतरराष्ट्रीय स्तर पर जिस तरह की आर्थिक-राजनीतिक उथलपुथल देखी गई है, उसके मद्देनजर 'तेजी से बढ़ती अर्थव्यवस्था' और 'अगामी महाशक्ति' जैसी उपाधियों का निर्वाह कर पाना भारत के लिए बहुत आसान नहीं रहा है। लेकिन इसके बावजूद अगर भारत से उम्मीदें बांधी जाती हैं, तो इसकी वजह है उसके युवा। भारत के 1.2 अरब लोगों में से अनुमानित रूप से आधे 25 वर्ष की आयु से कम हैं, जिस कारण जन-संसाधन के लिहाज से उसे अन्य देशों पर एक महत्वपूर्ण बढ़त प्राप्त होती है। आंकड़े बताते हैं कि एक दशक के भीतर भारत के पास अन्य बड़ी अर्थव्यवस्थाओं की तुलना में युवाओं की कहीं विशाल आबादी होगी। लेकिन इतने युवाओं को शिक्षित करने व कार्यकुशल बनाने के लिए हमारे पास पर्याप्त शैक्षिक संस्थान नहीं हैं। यदि भारत को अपनी युवाशक्ति की संपूर्ण संभावनाओं का दोहन करना है तो उसे दो लाख नए स्कूलों, 50 हजार नए कॉलेजों और एक हजार नए विश्वविद्यालयों की दरकार होगी।

## शिक्षा में निवेश और उसके नतीजे

जहां शैक्षिक संस्थाओं की कम संख्या एक समस्या है, वहीं उनकी गुणवत्ता का सवाल इससे भी महत्वपूर्ण है। यह कितनी बड़ी विडंबना है कि हमारा आर्थिक परिदृश्य तेजी से बदल रहा है, लेकिन हमारा शैक्षिक तंत्र पुरातनपंथी बना हुआ है। शिक्षा एक ऐसा क्षेत्र है, जिसमें यदि उपयोगी व प्रासंगिक परिणाम न मिलें तो उसमें निवेश किया गया सारा धन बर्बाद हो सकता है। हमारे यहां एक स्नातक को अपने नियोजक संस्थान के लिए 'प्रासंगिक' सिद्ध होने में जितना समय लगता है, उससे इसकी पुष्टि होती है। मेरा मत है कि जल्द ही भारत में आधुनिक समय की मांगों के अनुरूप शैक्षिक पाठ्यक्रमों पर अधिक जोर दिया जाने लगेगा। ये वे पाठ्यक्रम होंगे, जो करियर के बढ़ते विकल्पों को ध्यान में रखकर निर्धारित किए जाएंगे। औपचारिक और व्यावसायिक शिक्षा को एकीकृत करने के भारत सरकार के प्रयासों के साथ ही नेशनल बोर्डकेनल एजुकेशन क्वालिफिकेशन प्रेमक्व (एनबीईक्वएफ) को प्रस्तुत



करने से कौशल निर्माण व व्यावसायिक शिक्षा से संबंधित अनेक पाठ्यक्रमों के लिए रास्ता तैयार होगा।

## पेशेवर कौशल और सेक्टर केंद्रित कोर्सेस

मीडिया, मनोरंजन, फैशन, हाईएंड रिटेल जैसे उभरते हुए क्षेत्रों के लिए विशिष्ट पाठ्यक्रमों की आवश्यकता है। भारतीय कॉर्पोरेट भी इनके महत्व को समझ रहा है। मुझे लगता है कि आने वाले समय में हम अधिक से अधिक सेक्टर केंद्रित पाठ्यक्रमों को परिदृश्य पर उभरता हुए देखेंगे। उदाहरण के लिए आईआईएम ने ऊर्जा प्रबंधन, अकादमिक संस्थान प्रबंधन, स्वास्थ्य प्रबंधन और कृषि प्रबंधन जैसे नए पाठ्यक्रम प्रस्तावित करने का मन बना लिया है। इसी तरह इन्.ने भी कृषि, शिक्षा, चाटिका प्रबंधन जैसे विषयों के लिए स्नातकोत्तर पाठ्यक्रम प्रारंभ किए हैं।

## विदेशी विश्वविद्यालयों से लें सबक

विदेशी विश्वविद्यालयों से तुलना करने पर हम पाएंगे कि नए पाठ्यक्रम सृजित करने में हम उनसे

अभी बहुत पीछे हैं। अमेरिका के कोलंबिया बिजनेस स्कूल और बोस्टन यूनिवर्सिटी स्कूल ऑफ मैनेजमेंट में सामाजिक-उद्यम से संबंधित पाठ्यक्रम रचे जा चुके हैं और हेल्थ केयर में एमबीए पाठ्यक्रम भी प्रारंभ किए गए हैं। मार्केटिंग कला, संस्कृति, मनोरंजन से संबंधित पाठ्यक्रम भी अरसे से पढ़ाए जा रहे हैं।

## तैयार करने होंगे उच्च गुणवत्ता के पेशेवर

हमें आईपीएल की सफलता पर ध्यान देना चाहिए। आईपीएल ने क्रिकेट के साथ ही उसके अन्य पहलुओं के प्रति भी व्यावसायिक हितों को प्रेरित किया है। लेकिन यदि हम क्रिकेट में उच्च गुणवत्ता के पेशेवर खिलाड़ी नहीं तैयार करेंगे तो हमें विदेशी संस्थाओं या व्यक्तियों की मदद लेने को विवश होना पड़ेगा। यह बात खेल ही नहीं, हर क्षेत्र पर लागू होती है।

## शैक्षिक परिसरों का वैश्वीकरण

पिछले कुछ सालों में हमने यह भी देखा है कि प्रतिष्ठित भारतीय अकादमिक संस्थाओं ने विदेशों में

अपने कैम्पस स्थापित किए हैं। भारतीय अकादमिक संस्थाओं की दक्षिण एशिया में ऐतिहासिक रूप से अच्छी ब्रांड इक्विटी रही है, इसलिए मौजूदा विकासक्रम भी स्वाभाविक ही था। आईआईएम के अलावा मनिपाल और एमिटी जैसे निजी शैक्षिक समूह पहले ही विदेशों में अपनी उल्लेखनीय उपस्थिति दर्ज करा चुके हैं। अपेक्षा की जा रही है कि इसी तरह कई अन्य भारतीय संस्थाएं विदेशों, खासतौर पर अफ्रीका और खाड़ी देशों का रुख करेंगी। दूसरी तरफ विदेशी विश्वविद्यालय भी भारत में अपनी शाखाएं स्थापित करने का प्रयास कर रही हैं। अलग-अलग विदेशी शिक्षा प्रदाता विधेयक अभी भी संसद की सहमति की प्रतीक्षा कर रहा है।

## पेशेवर विकास कार्यक्रमों में बढ़ती रुचि

भारतीय कॉर्पोरेट ने भी अपने कर्मचारियों में व्याप्त 'स्किल-गैप' को पहचानते हुए पेशेवर विकास पाठ्यक्रमों की ओर अपनी अभिरूचि प्रदर्शित की है। यह शैक्षिक संस्थाओं के लिए एक बड़ा अवसर हो सकता है और व्यवहार कुशलता से लेकर क्रियाशीलता तक से संबंधित पाठ्यक्रम प्रस्तुत किए जा सकते हैं। अलग-अलग इस बात की संभावनाएं कम ही हैं कि विद्यार्थियों की प्राथमिकताएं बदलेंगी। अर्थशास्त्र, वाणिज्य, प्रबंधन, कानून और इंजीनियरिंग जैसे विषय अब भी उनकी वरीयता सूची में बने रहेंगे। वैसे इन दिनों पर्यावरण के प्रति बढ़ती सजगता के कारण पर्यावरण विज्ञान से संबंधित विषय प्रमुखता से उभरेंगे हैं।

## स्कूली स्तर से ही हो रही है शुरुआत

अगर सीबीएसई को एनबीईक्वएफ का प्रोक्सेल मानें तो हम पाएंगे कि पिछले कुछ वर्षों में सीबीएसई में भी व्यावसायिक पाठ्यक्रमों की ओर रुझान बढ़ा है। सीबीएसई ने पिछले साल ही ग्यारहवीं व बारहवीं कक्षा के लिए जियोस्पेशियल तकनीक, फूड प्रोडक्शन (हॉस्पिटैलिटी और टूरिज्म), फूड एंड बेवरेज सर्विसेस (हॉस्पिटैलिटी और टूरिज्म), मास मीडिया स्टडीज व मीडिया प्रोडक्शन जैसे नए पाठ्यक्रम प्रस्तुत किए हैं। यदि हम अपने युवाओं में छिपी संभावनाओं को सही दिशा दे सकें, तो यह साल भारतीय शिक्षा के लिए एक अहम मोड़ साबित हो सकता है।