

Govt. finalizing the new national education policy: JS MHRD
Knowledge sharing and student exchange critical in
the wake of protectionism: JS, MoCI
3-day FICCI Higher Education Summit 2017 gets under way

NEW DELHI, 9 November 2017: In the wake of protectionism, knowledge sharing and student exchange programmes become critical and gives a new hope for tomorrow. Around five million students move around the globe for education. India was among one of the nations with high outflow of students, the country spends more than \$20 billion on students studying abroad and there was a need to make India the centre of education.

This was stated by **Mr. Sudhanshu Pandey, Joint Secretary, MoCI, Government of India**, at the **13th FICCI Higher Education Summit 2017, a Global Conference and Exhibition on education** organized by FICCI with the support of the Ministry of Human Resource Development, Government of India, Ministry of Commerce & Industry, Government of India, SEPC and AICTE. In line with the government's focus to reform the Indian education system to cater to the needs of the future, the theme for the summit is **'Leapfrogging to Education 4.0: Student at the Core'**. This year 67 countries, 1000 delegates of which more than 247 are foreign delegates predominantly from Africa, SAARC, Middle East, CIS, Finland, New Zealand, Malaysia, Australia, USA, etc. are participating at the summit.

Mr. Pandey said that the student has been at the core of education and shall remain at its epicenter in future as well. The need is to create and facilitate an ecosystem where students can attain excellence in their chosen domains. He added that a bridge of understanding needed to be created between industry and academia so that both can move forward together.

On the occasion, FICCI-EY report 'Leapfrogging to Education 4.0: Student at the Core' and FICCI Report on Social Outreach in Higher Education were released.

In his Special Address, Dr. N. Saravana Kumar, Joint Secretary, MHRD, Government of India, said that the government is in the process of finalizing the new national education policy which will focus on making India's education system learner-centric instead of teacher-centric. Also, the highly regulated education sector is being liberalized and private sector participation is being encouraged for India to acquire global citizenship in education.

In his video message, **Mr. Prakash Javadekar, Union Minister for HRD, Government of India**, said that the government had come out with learning outcomes and was providing greater autonomy to the institutes to pursue research and development and innovation. The government has initiated several programs such as 'Swayam' to promote online learning and introduced quality benchmarking of institutes to make them competitive globally.

Mr. Suresh Prabhu, Union Minister for Commerce & Industry, Government of India, in his message, urged the stakeholders including industry and academic to recommend ideas to

promote the business of education globally. With internet, new business opportunities have emerged and India must take advantage of it.

Representing Finland, the Partner Country, participating in the summit with a 15-member delegation, **Ms. Nina Vaskunlahti, Ambassador of Finland to India**, said that Finland's education system stands on four pillars of equality, efficiency, quality and internationalism. Finland's education system is rated among the best in the world and the country would be forthcoming in sharing its knowledge, technology and best practices in the education domain with India.

In his Theme Address, **Prof (Dr) Rajan Saxena, Chair-FICCI HE Committee & VC, NMIMS University**, said that the student is the epicenter in Education 4.0 which is giving way to personalized learning with the use of collaborative technology. Education institutions and regulatory framework have to embrace 4.0 technologies and processes. Besides, flexible regulatory framework and academic, financial and administrative autonomy are imperative for higher education going forward.

In his Special Address, Prof Vinod Bhat, Co chair, FICCI Higher Education Summit, the emphasis has been on teaching and not on learning which needs to change in India. The education sector is undergoing disruptive changes with the advent of new pedagogy, assessment systems and delivery of knowledge. Therefore, there is a need to focus on learning which is outcome and result-oriented.

Emphasising the importance of quality education, **Dr Sanjaya Baru, Secretary General, FICCI**, said that better education would facilitate in creating a better talent pool for industry. Thus, there is a need to create an enabling atmosphere where the government, academia and industry could work in tandem and create synergies to take Education 4.0. forward.

Ms. Shobha M. Ghosh, Assistant Secretary General, FICCI, said that last year two MOUs were signed to set up FICCI-NKFH-SVU CoE for industry academia engagement in Tirupati and AP-FCCI CoE for Grassroots Innovation in Vizag and both the centres will soon become a reality. She added that this year FICCI is signing a MoU with AICTE to take the agenda of Education 4. 0 ahead.

Ms. Sangeeta Godbole, Director General, Services Export Promotion Council (SEPC), said that SEPC, set up by the Ministry of Commerce & Industry, Government of India, facilitates service exporters of India which includes education sector as well. Going forward, SEPC would bridge the gap between academia and industry while pushing for greater autonomy in the education sector, policy reforms and internationalization of education.

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