

# Future Enabling Education :

## North East India AS Education Hub for Asia



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## Background:

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We are observing unprecedented changes in – social, economic and environmental – driven by accelerating globalisation and faster rate of technological developments. There are myriad new opportunities for human advancement. The future has become more uncertain and unpredictable too; but we need to be open and ready for it.

We have seen one of the fastest rate of technology adoption in the human history during the ongoing COVID19 crisis and the beneficiary has been the education system. At the same the recent events have also showed us the fragility of the system. For more than ever, it is now a fact that we need to think out of the box. That the schools and educational institutes now needs to prepare students for jobs that have not yet been created, for technologies that have not yet been invented, to solve problems that have not yet been anticipated.

This situation calls for shared responsibility to seize opportunities and find solutions. To navigate through such uncertainty, students will need to develop curiosity, imagination, resilience and self-regulation; they will need to respect and appreciate the ideas, perspectives and values of others; and they will need to cope with failure and rejection, and to move forward in the face of adversity. Their motivation will be more than getting a good job and a high income; they will also need to care about the well-being of their friends and families, their communities and the planet.

## What are the challenges

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1. The first Challenge is Infrastructural

As education becomes more and more reliant on technology, we will face the challenge of providing the educators as well as the students with necessary technology to be able to provide and access education.

2. The Second challenge is environmental:

Climate change and the depletion of natural resources require urgent action and adaptation. The current COVID19 pandemic is another indication of future uncertainties. We need to be able to equip future generations with necessary level of awareness and knowledge to be able to handle this challenge.

3. The third challenge is economic:

Scientific knowledge is creating new opportunities and solutions that can enrich our lives, while at the same time fuelling disruptive waves of change in every sector. Unprecedented innovation in science and technology, especially in biotechnology and artificial intelligence, is raising fundamental questions about what it is to be human. It is time to create new economic, social and institutional models that pursue better lives for all.

Financial interdependence at local, national and regional levels has created global value chains and a shared economy, but also pervasive uncertainty and exposure to economic risk and crises. Data is being created, used and shared on a vast scale, holding out the promise of expansion, growth and improved efficiency while posing new problems of cyber security and privacy protection.

4. The fourth challenge is social:

As the global population continues to grow, migration, urbanisation and increasing social and cultural diversity are reshaping countries and communities.

In large parts of the world, inequalities in living standards and life chances are widening, while conflict, instability and inertia, often intertwined with populist politics, are eroding trust and confidence in government itself. At the same time, the threats of war and terrorism are escalating. These global trends are already affecting individual lives, and may do so for decades to come. They have triggered a global debate that matters to every country, and call for global and local solutions.

## The Initiative

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Education, in the future needs to be accessible to all and it needs to equip learners with a sense of purpose, and the competencies they need, to shape their own lives and contribute to the lives of others. To stir up the social intelligence through meaningful discussions and steer a community driven change in creating an education system for the future, Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI) has started a Series on **Enabling Future Education in the North East**. The first one in the series was organized on 6<sup>th</sup> June 2020 named '**Future of Education**' with heads of IIT, IIIT, TISS, Assam University and Top Private Educational Institutes joining together to discuss various pressing issues in the education business and role of technology in future.

## The Aims

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The aim of the initiative is to help us find answers to two far-reaching questions:

- Improvement in infrastructure required to make quality education accessible to all.
- How to seamlessly integrate technology in education system so that democratization of education is complete?
- What knowledge, skills, attitudes and values will today's students need to thrive and shape their world in future?
- How can instructional systems develop these knowledge, skills, attitudes and values effectively so as to ensure that each student contributes positively to the society?

Unless steered with a purpose, the rapid advance of science and technology may widen inequities, exacerbate social fragmentation and accelerate resource depletion. In the 21<sup>st</sup> century, that purpose has been increasingly defined in terms of well-being.

But well-being involves more than access to material resources, such as income and wealth, jobs and earnings, and housing. It is also related to the quality of life, including health, civic engagement, social connections, education, security, life satisfaction and the

environment. Equitable access to all of these underpins the concept of inclusive growth. Education has a vital role to play in developing the knowledge, skills, attitudes and values that enable people to contribute to and benefit from an inclusive and sustainable future.

Learning to form clear and purposeful goals, work with others with different perspectives, find untapped opportunities and identify multiple solutions to big problems will be essential in the coming years.

Education needs to aim to do more than prepare young people for the world of work; it needs to equip students with the skills they need to become active, responsible and engaged citizens.

### **Who are the targets**

The initiative plans to involve a wide range of stakeholders from around the region and country. The focus will be on policies pedagogy, assessment and the design of instructional system, etc. Policy makers, academic experts, school networks, Universities and Colleges, research organizations, teachers, education leaders, students, social partners and industry representatives from the sector will participate in the initiative and exchange ideas, compare proven and promising practices, discuss cutting-edge research and contribute to a new ecosystem of learning.

### **Tentative Program Outline**

<b>Time</b>	<b>Topic</b>	<b>Speaker</b>
<b>Inaugural Session</b>		
<b>2.30 pm</b>	Welcome Address	Mr. Ranjit Barthakur Chairman
<b>2.35 pm</b>	Special Address	<b>Mr. Th. Radheshyam Singh*</b> Hon'ble Minister of Education, Manipur
<b>2.45 pm</b>	Special Address	<b>Mr. Taba Tedir*</b> , Hon'ble Minister of Education, Government of Arunachal Pradesh
<b>2.55 pm</b>	Special Address	<b>Mr. Yanthungo Patton*</b> Hon'ble Deputy Chief Minister of Nagaland
<b>3.10 pm</b>	Key Note Address	<b>Mr. Jishnu Dev Varma</b> , Hon'ble Deputy Chief Minister,

		Government of Tripura
<b>3.25 pm</b>	Vote of Thanks	FICCI
<b>Technical Session</b>		
<b>3.30 pm</b>	Leveraging Technology to ensure accessibility of Education	<b>Director IIM Shillong*</b>
<b>3.40 pm</b>	Enabling education to address climate change and the environmental challenge	<b>Prof. Satyadeo Poddar*</b> Vice Chancellor, Maharaja Bir Bikram University
<b>3.50 pm</b>	Addressing Social objectives of Education	<b>Dr. Charvak*</b> Associate Professor of Mass Communication, Assam University
<b>3.55 pm</b>	Industry Perspective Addressing the demand supply gap	<b>Dr. Pranjal Kumar Phookan,</b> Chief Manager, BCPL <b>Mr. Devid Debbarma</b> Founder, CPR India Centre for Policy and Conflict Research
<b>4.05 pm</b>	Global Disruption in Education the Economic Impact	<b>Dr. Chavi Asrani</b> Indian council for research on international economic relations (ICRIER)
<b>4.10 pm</b>	Human Resource capacity building : Way forward for North East India	<b>Mr. Pradeep Diwedi</b> Strategy Expert
<b>4.15 pm</b>	Interaction with Participants	

*\* Invited, to be Confirmed*

**Proposed Date : 11<sup>th</sup> July 2020 (Saturday)**