

A TRANSFORMATIONAL EDUCATION JOURNEY BY 2047

"TRANSFORMING EDUCATION: CREATION OF 100 ELITE HEI'S WITH GER OF 75% BY 2047"

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PROPOSED SOLUTIONS FOR 100 ELITE HEI'S IN BHARAT BY 2047

1. Regulatory and Governance Reform

- Restructure or merge different higher education regulatory bodies, such as UGC, AICTE, NCTE, etc., for enhanced coordination, optimized resource allocation, and streamlined accreditation processes.
- Transforming the UGC into a statutory body fosters autonomy, professionalism, and accountability.
- Merging UGC Act into Legislative Backing for Legal Clarity, Political Stability.
- All regulations should be accompanied by facilitation, for example as currently only 2% of institutes are registered for the Academic Bank of Credit ABC system.

2. Spread awareness among Undergraduate students regarding Research and Postgraduate Programs

- There must be counseling sessions regarding the benefits of pursuing research and a PhD, emphasizing how it can enhance one's livelihood. These sessions should be regularly monitored and facilitated.
- <u>3</u>. Facilitating Inter-State Competition in Education through workshops, University/Institute rankings, research, innovation, and incentives aimed at enhancing the Gross Enrollment Ratio (GER) contributes to sustained advancement and excellence in educational standards nationwide
- <u>4.</u> Collaborations can be facilitated through Public-Private Partnerships, such as joint degree programs with foreign institutions and industry partnerships. The curriculum will be revamped to transform it into a flexible, broad-based, and multidisciplinary program.
- <u>5.</u> Linking university grants to the selection of Vice-Chancellors/Directors through a transparent and objective manner should be implemented. There should be an annual feedback process involving faculty, students, and other stakeholders, with NIRF parameters taken into consideration.

PROPOSED SOLUTION FOR TERTIARY GER OF 75% BY 2047 IN BHARAT

1. Programs for Encouraging Higher Education starting from the basic School level.

There should be monthly career counseling sessions for students in the 11th and 12th grades, and annually for those in the 8th to 10th grades. It is crucial for students to be informed about the diverse career opportunities available after the 12th grade, such as Engineering, Defense, Finance, Agriculture, Mathematics, Physics, Research, Medical, etc. Attendance at these sessions should be mandatory, and as an incentive, students could earn one leave for attending three sessions.

2. Lack of Centralized Information regarding Incentives and Scholarships among the Students

There should be a centralized portal where information about Scholarships, Fellowships, and Incentives is regularly updated. This portal should cater to both Higher Education Institute students and those in the 12th grade, as many students are not aware of the available opportunities for higher education. The government should ensure that all authentic bodies are connected in one place through cross-checking to streamline the process.

- 3. The curriculum should be designed to allow students to engage in part-time work, such as assisting professors with research or teaching underprivileged children near the campus. Institutes should provide some form of incentive or remuneration to students for their contributions. This flexibility enables students to financially support themselves while pursuing their education.
- **4.** The establishment of new institutes offering programs beyond traditional fields like Medical and Engineering, such as Arts and Humanities, Healthcare allied services, Environmental sustainability, and Agriculture, is essential. These institutes should conduct regular counseling sessions and utilize advertisements to raise awareness about the benefits of pursuing these programs.

EXISTING SOLUTION WITH PARTIAL MODIFICATION

- 1. Increasing awareness of Digital learning/Education among youth and their parents through targeted newspaper and digital advertisements.
- 2. To address the significant number of unfilled seats in higher education, particularly in medical and Engineering fields, a provision could be implemented whereby students who opt for these seats must attend for a minimum of one year and obtain a diploma, or equivalent qualification, in line with the objectives outlined in the New Education Policy (NEP) 2020.
- 3. At the higher Education level, open distance-learning universities and institutes could facilitate international mobility, allowing students to pursue educational opportunities across borders.
- 4. Technological innovations like smart classes can rejuvenate education, enhancing engagement and inclusivity, particularly for marginalized students, enriching the learning experience. Consequently, this fosters greater interest among students in pursuing higher education.
- 5. Faculty shortages are prevalent across various categories of institutions in India, including the IITs and IIMs, which face 40% and 31% faculty vacancies, respectively. To address this issue and promote higher education, students should be encouraged to pursue master's and postgraduate programs through comprehensive career counseling during their first year of UG programs.
- 6. Expand infrastructure to build colleges, universities, and vocational centers in rural areas, Enhancing access to higher Education for diverse socio-economic backgrounds.
- 7. Gradually boosting the GDP allocation towards research, innovation, and development annually can bolster economic growth and uplift Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) in India, fostering innovation, entrepreneurship, and global competitiveness.

"The ignited mind of the youth is the most powerful resource on the Earth, above the Earth and under the Earth."

"A.P.J. Abdul Kalam"

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