

SKILL TRAINING, JOB MARKET LINKED

Adequate skill-training is the need of the hour to set the education-system in order

full scale attempt to do so, no policy can precisely predict how much and what kinds of skill will be required in the next decade and so on. Even Russia at the height of its Communist past never got the numbers absolutely right.

That being so, we have to ensure that there are policies that at least try to address the problem honestly. Unfortunately this has never been the case in India. The Education Ministry has always been on the side-

various disciplines cannot be seen in isolation. It is the whole system that needs to be looked into. Education is a Concurrent Subject and therefore, the states and the Centre together will have to work out the solutions. The solution is often seen in the form of more rules and regulations. Actually flexibility is required, especially in a country as big and diverse as India. For example, when there is a demand for more trained man-power, making more strin-

at large and the market in particular decide what is good and required, and colleges & skill training institutes are bound to follow. Funding, of course, is required and the government and the public at large should be partners in it. But each should have its sphere of responsibility. For example, school education is the government's responsibility, and it must discharge its duty fully. Free, compulsory education must be universal. If

TODAY there is a growing realization that there is a great deal of wrong with our education system. For example, the industry is feeling the shortage of appropriately trained man power. In-house training, often expensive and frustrating, is being resorted to. The industry is looking at the education system to train youngsters in the requisite skills so that they are competent to take on the job in hand. Parents too perceive the system giving their wards the requisite skill training so that they can find gainful employment.

Skill training, job market, and educational requirement of industry are closely linked. This has always been so. In the past parents were keen for their wards to have a graduate degree so that they could get a government job especially of the white collar variety. Today there are many more options open to those leaving school, but the importance of a university degree still remains. There is always a lag period where reality has to catch up with change. So parental aspirations still have to catch up with the reality.

The government too, by default, has done precious little to provide the requisite skill training which would equip the students to find gainful employment. Even if there was a

EXPERT SPEAK: HIGHER EDUCATION FORUM



lines and no real importance has been given to it either at the Central or the state levels - be it budgetary allocations or policy enunciations. There has been tinkering at best and these have also been shrinking.

Skill-training in various domains and higher education in

gent rules for recruitment of teachers or trainers will only lead to bogus degrees and corrupt practices.

Higher education will have to find its own feet and it will do so, as long as there are good inputs from the schools and freedom to operate. Let the society

private parties participate in it, it should be seen as a bonus.

Concurrently, a large number of skill training institutes should be set up not dovetailed into either the school system or the colleges, but functioning as independent centres focusing on job-market. They must have

the flexibility to change with the evolving job market. To begin with, teachers with experience, even if low on paper qualifications, should be recruited. If they do a good job, a growing economy will reward them. This is a way out of the present morass to tackle the lag. Many

of the famous teachers of the first IITs were not Doctorates and yet were brilliant in their own fields and are even today revered by their students.

School-education for all is a prerequisite for any modern society. Skill-training is job oriented and should be treated as such. University and college education has multiple goals which may or may not be for the market, as it is now. It may even be an end in itself.

And serious thought must be given to all. The benefits of a good education system cannot be demonstrated overnight through a quick payback period. It requires a long gestation period. In a fast moving world, those sectors that show immediate returns get all the attention. But all sectors are equally important for growth of a nation. This unfortunately has never been understood in India, even after more than six decades of independence. However, all is not lost - even at this late stage; put the house of education in order. Better late, than never.

(This article has been authored by Dr Bishnupriya Chakravarty, Adjunct Professor, Indian Institute of Cost and Management Studies & Research, Pune and a member of HEF.)

"EXECUTIVE EDUCATION"

Get prepared to meet challenges in the ever-changing business world



FIND OUT ABOUT THE

"EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT'S DIPLOMA COURSE"

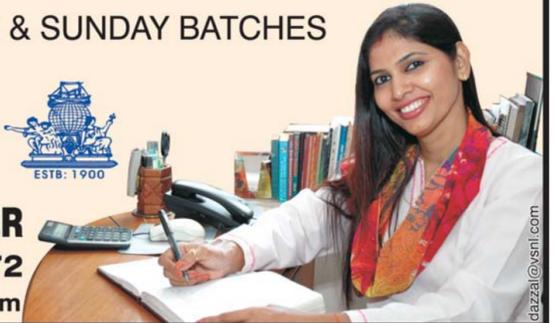
FULL TIME & SUNDAY BATCHES



DAVAR'S COLLEGE
(A NANI DAVAR VISION)
As long as you are green, you are growing.



Enrol Now at 3rd COUNTER
☎: 2202 2549, 2204 5072
Website: www.davarsindia.com



IN NEWS

Facts and Figures

The higher education enrolment in India, according to the Central government, is going to move up to 44 million from the current 14 million in the next decade. The key players in the growth will be the private players, distance education and foreign education providers. According to the HRD minister Kapil Sibal "Industry does not create (human) wealth, it translates ideas into wealth. Higher education will create this human wealth. We speak of adding 30 million more to the higher education, it means 1,000 more universities. We need the private sector, foreign education providers, expansion of distance learning and enlarging the online format of learning." The Central government stated that while it believes that 44 million will pursue higher education, 150 million more will need quality vocational education. It would be interesting to wait and watch.

From Manipal to Malaysia

Manipal Education, the higher education services entity with a multi-national presence, has plans to set up the Manipal International University (MIU) in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. The multi-disciplinary university is spread over 100 acres and is being set up on an invitation from the Malaysian government to the group. The university is the second institution of the group with a plan to establish in Malaysia after the Melaka Manipal Medical College (MMMC). The plan comes at a time when Malaysia has been declared to be in the 11th position globally among destinations for education, and 2nd in Asia after Singapore.

The bread called Books!

Reading books can be one of the best lessons in life

'WHEN you sell a book you don't sell just twelve ounces of paper, ink and glue - you sell a whole new life,' American novelist Christopher Morley once said. Books have acquired a whole new meaning in today's world, deeper than ever before.

It is either a few pages of printed words or a mine of information, a wealth of knowledge; a cache of experiences from other's lives; a peek into the old times when one did not exist; a peek into times yet to come; all these and more. Books can change lives forever and for better. As an activity, reading books is most engaging, engrossing, enchanting, and enriching.

A passion, a hobby, a skill or a habit - reading books is one of the most cherished patterns for most avid readers. Reading helps the mind get the liberty to imagine and visu-

alize text in a way that is exclusive to oneself and only s/he can relate to. The faces that one gives to the characters, their expressions, the colors that one fills in the landscapes; the backdrops that one creates in various situations and the music that plays in the mind while reading intensely is only with oneself and no one else can see, feel, or share the elusive moments. It helps to travel into a different world from where it is difficult to make one's way out. It creates that space where one longs to go back; a space that belongs to the reader alone - like a special, intimate and private room which cannot be invaded.

In a youth readership survey held in 2009 by National Book Trust (NBT) and National Council of Applied Economic Research (NCAER), it was found that among the liter-

ate youth population of 333 million in the country, only 25% are book readers (non syllabus) and in that 11% are urban and 13.2% are rural. It means that as the world looks to these instantaneous devices and lives in the instant information age, the problem of "deep reading" is only bound to grow and number of book readers is only to get smaller.

In simple words, it takes very little to be well read and takes even less to get started. Here are few tips to strengthen one's book-reading habits:

1. Unlike most forms of electronic media, books can be read at their own pace and absorbed as you go over the period of time.
2. Give your partner an assured time - How many pages? How many hours? How many books? Goal setting helps attain more in reading, as in life.
3. Prepare a list of names and titles you have read so far and keep updating. This would help read more of a particular author or a genre and encourages for more.
4. Most avid and voracious readers have a particular time of a day when they forget the real world and live with the author in between the pages. Allow yourself that liberty of a privileged time and watch it happen to you effortlessly.

There are many who leave books aside, basis the belief, that reading is not resulting into any tangible and visible benefit. For many unenthusiastic who are capable of reading, here are few reasons why reading books is a lifelong investment for nurturing one's intellect and hence why it needs to

HOW BOOKS HELP?

- ◆ Help improve vocabulary
- ◆ Provide context and thus help to understand new words
- ◆ Help to increase focus and concentration
- ◆ Help taste and understand different cultures
- ◆ Finally, they help one become a more thinking individual

be continued:

◆ An active mental process — By reading books, one thinks more and becomes smarter.

◆ Basic skill-builder — Each kind of course in the world has a book to go along. Books help with the deepest understanding of any skill

◆ Improves vocabulary— Just when you may stop learning new words, books add challenges of inferring context to understand new words

◆ Taste different cultures — Books without much investment help you get transferred to different world of cultures.

◆ Boosts focus — Book reading is focused. It is a story being narrated; a set of information being given constantly and hence commands all your concentration. Therefore books help to increase focus and make you more concentrating.

With e-books, audio books and other gadgets encroaching upon the space the only worry is the lack of these devices' ability to engage the mind as completely as a book placed in their hands can do. Nevertheless, reading is that adventure which never ends or rather should never end. All one needs to do is to set on the adventure and discover the immense joys it has to offer.

(Written by Renuka Natu with inputs from Kaveri Roy)

10th, 12th Pass / Fail ?

- Mechanical / Civil / Architectural / Piping Draftsman
- Interior Electrician • TV • DVD • Mobile • Plumber
- Pipe Fitter • Rigger • Diesel Mechanic • Turner
- Automobile • Welder/6 G Welder • Fitter • CAD
- Refrigeration • CNC Prog. / Supervisor Instru.
- Computer Software / Hardware / Networking

INDUSTRIAL ENGINEERING INSTITUTE, Thane (W)

Behind Ashok Talkies, Near Datta Mandir & Rly. Station
25334467 / 9920249649 / 9323515480

MADURAI KAMARAJ UNIVERSITY

DDE RECOGNIZED BY DISTANCE EDUCATION COUNCIL (DEC)

Professional Courses		IT Courses	
M.B.A. Finance	(2 Yrs)	M.C.A. Any Degree with Mathematics at +2 Level (3 Years)	
M.B.A. Marketing	(2 Yrs)	M.C.A. B.Sc. (C.S.O) / B.Sc. (IT) Lateral Entry B.C.A. / Any Degree with P.G.D.C.A. (2 Years)	
M.B.A. Human Resources	(2 Yrs)	B.C.A. Pass in +2 (3 Years)	
M.B.A. System	(2 Yrs)	B.C.A. Lateral Entry pass in (2 Years) 10th Std with any 3 Years Diploma Qualification Polytechnics.	
M.B.A. Production Management	(2 Yrs)	B.Com., (Computer Application) Pass in +2 (3 Years)	
M.B.A. Retail Management	(2 Yrs)	B.B.A., (Computer Application) Pass in +2 (3 Years)	
M.Com., Banking	(2 Yrs)	P.G.D.C.A. Any Degree (1 Year)	
M.Com., Co-operative Management	(2 Yrs)		
M.A., Labour Management	(2 Yrs)		
M.A., Tourism Management	(2 Yrs)		
M.A., Advertising Public Relation	(2 Yrs)		
M.A., Journalism & Mass Communication*	(2 Yrs)		
B.G.L., Bachelor of General Law	(2 Yrs)		
B.L.I.S.C., Bachelor of Library & Information Science	(1 Year)		
M.L.I.S.C., Master of Library & Information Science	(1 Year)		
M.Sc., (T.H.M) Tourism & Hospitality Mgmt.	(2 Yrs)		
B.Sc., (T.H.M) Tourism & Hospitality Mgmt.	(3 Yrs)		
P.G. Diploma Tourism Management	(1 Year)		
P.G. Diploma Hotel Management	(1 Year)		
P.G. Diploma Nutrition & Dietetics	(1 Year)		
P.G. Diploma Bio Statics	(1 Year)		

P.G. Courses (2 Years)	
M.Sc. Maths/Physics/Chemistry/Electronics & Communications	
M.A. History*/Economics*/English*/Tamil*/Political Science*/Psychology*/Criminology*/Police Admin*/Public Administration*/Gandhian Thought*/Philosophy and Religion*/Hindi.	
M.Com*	

U.G. Courses (3 Years)	
B.A., History*/Tamil/English/Economics*/Political Science*/Social Science.	
B.Com*/B.Sc (Maths) /BBA /BBA (Retail).	

17/19, Hira Building, Mint Road, Opp. GPO, Near CST Railway Station, Mumbai 400001.
Tel: 22630666 / 22630667 Mob: 9757429739 / 9892463609
E-mail: mkucst@gmail.com EXAM CENTRE IN MUMBAI