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# UNIVERSITY NEWS

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**Mohamed Jaffar A**

International Collaborations of Higher Education Institutions: Achievements of Atlas Skill Tech University

**K Gouthami and R Poorna Chandra Rao**

Changing Contours in Engineering Education in the State of Andhra Pradesh

**Dhanappa M Metri**

Mandatory Internship: A Useful Policy

**Sreoshi Dasgupta and Baby Niviya Feston**

Innovating Education: Garden City University's Journey to Digital Transformation

**Brij Kothari**

Education, Serendipity and Purpose

– Convocation Address

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ITEMS	In This Issue	PAGE
<b>Articles</b>		
International Collaborations of Higher Education Institutions: Achievements of Atlas Skill Tech University		3
Changing Contours in Engineering Education in the State of Andhra Pradesh		9
Mandatory Internship: A Useful Policy		14
Innovating Education: Garden City University's Journey to Digital Transformation		18
<b>Convocation Address</b>		
Dhirubhai Ambani Institute of Information and Communication Technology		24
<b>Campus News</b>		
AIU News		31
<b>Theses of the Month (Social Sciences)</b>		
Advertisement		40

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## International Collaborations of Higher Education Institutions: Achievements of Atlas Skill Tech University

Mohamed Jaffar A\*

India is the most populated country in the world and has the largest population, amounting to 580 million young people in the age group 5-24. Indian education sector is estimated to reach U.S. \$225 billion by F.Y. 2025 from U.S. \$117 billion in F.Y. 2020. The online education segment in India is also increasing, with a CAGR of 20 per cent. Higher education institutions offer opportunities to pursue undergraduate and postgraduate courses and provide R&D facilities, which will enhance people's standard of living. "Every higher educational institution has to prepare its annual development plan to meet the specific academic mission of the institution. The plan must focus on academic excellence, research, innovation, etc. The synergy effects of international collaborations make education more meaningful and change the institution more purposeful" (Anagha Ganesh, 2024).

The University Grants Commission (UGC) guidelines for the Institutional Development Plan for Higher Education Institutions aim to develop an operative framework to promote the Internationalisation of education, international equivalence, and exchange of faculty and students. It perceives that economic, political, social, legal, and environmental challenges at the global level need unified solutions for all the related nations. Some issues like carbon emissions and COVID-19 like the pandemic, are not only confined to a single nation. To tackle the issue, countries require integrated efforts collectively. Higher education institutions are international bodies responsible for successfully addressing problems. They have intellectual personalities and research capabilities in different areas of science and technology. At this juncture, international collaborations between higher education institutions will inevitably be necessary to solve human issues and improve the standard of human life.

### International Collaborations and Partnerships in Higher Education Institutions

"According to the Ministry of External Affairs, there has been a 73 per cent increase in Indian students going abroad, i.e., from 3,71,506 students in 2016 to 6,46,206 students till November 2022. India is encouraging more Indian students and academics to get good international exposure" (Iqbaljeet Singh Bains, 2023). The International Financial Services Centres Authority (IFSCA) has allowed top foreign universities in the QS 500 to set up offline centres for selected subjects in GIFT City, Gujarat. Already, UGC regulation

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**Moumita Das and Suresh Garg**

Nurturing Innovation and Entrepreneurship among Students in Higher Education  
Information System: The Novel Educational/ODL Ecosystem

**Anirban Ghosh**

Vocational Education and Training: The Experiential Role of Netaji Subhas Open  
University, West Bengal

**Nitish Kumar Arya**

Status of School Infrastructure and Mid-day Meal Scheme in Dehradun

**Swagata Das**

Community Radio and Its Prospects for National Education Policy–2020

**Gagandeep Kang**

Diversity Fosters Creativity

– Convocation Address

ITEMS	In This Issue	PAGE
<b>Articles</b>		
Nurturing Innovation and Entrepreneurship among Students in Higher Education Information System: The Novel Educational/ODL Ecosystem		3
Vocational Education and Training: The Experiential Role of Netaji Subhas Open University, West Bengal		7
Status of School Infrastructure and Mid-day Meal Scheme in Dehradun		13
Community Radio and Its Prospects for National Education Policy-2020		20
<b>Convocation Address</b>		
Indian Institute of Technology Delhi		25
<b>Campus News</b>		
AIU News		32
<b>Theses of the Month (Science &amp; Technology)</b>		
Advertisement		42

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# Nurturing Innovation and Entrepreneurship among Students in Higher Education Information System: The Novel Educational/ODL Ecosystem

Moumita Das\* and Suresh Garg\*\*

Innovation and Entrepreneurship (I&E) play an important role in driving the economic growth of a country. As such, these corporate concepts are of recent origin. Innovation encapsulates everything that is new with respect of ideas/knowledge-original, novel, need-based, relevant – supported by research and leading to a product/process/service/strategy model for social good. Innovation in education implies that educator does what is best for the comprehensive development of students without bias or prejudices/they transact latest knowledge at their wavelength using newer techniques and trains them to ask probing questions, develop problem-solving skills and think independently. Innovation in education allows imagination to flourish.

Creation of economic values by taking risks imaginatively is referred to as entrepreneurship. It is also the process of designing, launching and running a new business innovatively. An entrepreneur possesses ability to translate invention or technology into products and services. An entrepreneur is an innovator and repository of new ideas with capacity and capability to take risks.

I&E activities improve productivity, develop core competencies and generate employment, thereby improving both the human resource and the economy of a country. Since India is the fifth highest and on the threshold of being the third largest economy, all her acts have to be innovative. Experience shows that the young entrepreneurs have the capacity and capability to take risks and pursue their dreams with innovative I&E activities. In fact, in developed economies, the youth have been traditionally encouraged and nurtured to take up innovative and entrepreneurial activities by their colleges and universities. The innovation capabilities like working fingers, communication, leadership, and strategic thinking are considered important part of business and entrepreneurship skills by corporate recruiters.

It is estimated that about five years from now India will have 1.04 billion young working-age persons, who will form a formidable global workforce<sup>1</sup>. They are envisioned to be providing their services globally as the rapidly aging population in other countries will grow with time. In this scenario, India will continue to enjoy competitive edge in terms of the demographic dividend in the coming decades.

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**Arvind Kumar Agrawal and Ram Lal Bagaria**

Salvaging Lost Cultural Heritage and Pride: The Indian Knowledge Systems

**Shree Raman Dubey**

Education is Economy: Global Idea Impacts

**Sonali Jaiswal and Harishankar Singh**

Training the Students to be Upstanders not Just Bystanders

**K Venkatesan and Saravana Selvi C**

Effectiveness of Teachers in Implementing Skill-based Curriculum and Sustainable Development Goals: A Case of Andaman and Nicobar Islands

**Madhabi Puri Buch**

Achieving Goal through Own Mantra

– Convocation Address

ITEMS	In This Issue	PAGE
<b>Articles</b>		
Salvaging Lost Cultural Heritage and Pride: The Indian Knowledge Systems		3
Education is Economy: Global Idea Impacts		10
Training the Students to be Upstanders not Just Bystanders		17
Effectiveness of Teachers in Implementing Skill-based Curriculum and Sustainable Development Goals: A Case of Andaman and Nicobar Islands		20
<b>Convocation Address</b>		
Indian Institute of Management Ahmedabad		28
<b>Campus News</b>		30
<b>AIU News</b>		35
<b>Theses of the Month</b> (Science & Technology)		38
<b>Advertisement</b>		42

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## Salvaging Lost Cultural Heritage and Pride: The Indian Knowledge Systems

Arvind Kumar Agrawal\* and Ram Lal Bagaria\*\*

The Indian Knowledge Systems (IKS) represent diverse intellectual traditions encompassing philosophy, science, mathematics, astronomy, architecture, and economics (Subbarayappa & Sarma, 1985). Indian society is a veritable gold mine of scientific, societal, artistic, literary, traditional, linguistic, architectural, and customary expressions. As per the National Education Policy-2020, IKS refers to indigenous mechanisms of knowledge, covering subjects like medicine, astronomy, philosophy, mathematics, yoga, agriculture, engineering, linguistics, governance, economy, and polity (National Education Policy, 2020). Indians have been practicing ancient customs and rituals for generations, and they have been passed down from generation to generation. However, in the last several centuries, despite their profound contributions to human knowledge, many aspects of Indian knowledge systems have been marginalized or lost in this process.<sup>1</sup> This paper explores various aspects of the rich culture of ancient knowledge systems.

It proposes ideas for revival by incorporating the Indian Knowledge Systems (IKS) into the education curriculum. By incorporating IKS into curricula at all educational attainments, efforts should be made to preserve and promote Indian languages, arts, and culture. The paper highlights the need for new courses and programmes at undergraduate and postgraduate levels in higher educational institutes. It outlines the model curriculum structure of the undergraduate programme in IKS as per guidelines of NEP 2020, along with other statutory and regulatory policies in this regard. The paper also explores teaching, learning, assessment, and evaluation mechanisms in the newly introduced model curriculum for undergraduate programme in IKS. By reviving and preserving IKS, India can reclaim its lost cultural heritage and pride while fostering a more holistic and inclusive approach to education.

An essential and foremost step in salvaging IKS is incorporating various aspects of traditional knowledge into the modern education system. By incorporating elements of IKS into curricula, learners may have a comprehensive understanding of their cultural heritage and develop a deeper appreciation for traditional practices (National Education Policy, 2020).

Launching teaching and research programs for different educational attainments in schools and colleges (Certificate, Diploma, Undergraduate, Postgraduate including Research) in India is crucial in promoting India's diverse indigenous knowledge across fields like

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