



# Excellence in Education and Scientific Research

---

Dr.M.Ponnavaikko  
Provost  
SRM University



# Agenda for Presentation

---


- ❖ Higher Education for Empowerment
- ❖ Problems and Issues of Higher Education in India
- ❖ Scientific Research for Economic Development
- ❖ Problems and Issues of Research in the Universities



## Higher Education for Empoerment

---


- ❖ India is not a poor country,
- ❖ But, a country with poor people.
- ❖ India ranks **11<sup>th</sup>** in GDP (1,235,975 million USD)
- ❖ India ranks **fourth** in PPP (3,526,124 million USD)
- ❖ But, India ranks **142<sup>nd</sup>** with a per capita GDP of 1032.
- ❖ India ranks **129<sup>th</sup>** with a per capita PPP of US\$2,900
- ❖ one-third of the poor people, living bellow poverty line in the world, reside in India.
- ❖ 70% of the Population live in Rural India.



# Does Higher Education Help in Reducing the Poverty level ? (1)

---


- ❖ Indian Universities Produce Graduates for the developed World.
- ❖ Rural India is Agro based with a cultivable area of 1,269,219 km<sup>2</sup>
- ❖ India has a total water surface area of 314,400 km<sup>2</sup> and receives an average annual rainfall of 1,100 mm.
- ❖ It also has the world's largest cattle population: 193 million
- ❖ India is the largest producer in the world of milk



## Does Higher Education Help in Reducing the Poverty level ? (2)

---

- ❖ It is the second largest producer of wheat, rice, sugar, cotton, silk, pe.anuts and inland fish
- ❖ It is the third largest producer of tobacco.
- ❖ India is the largest fruit producer, accounting for 10% of the world fruit production.
- ❖ India is the second largest producer of silk.
- ❖ Medicinal Plants grow in the Tribal areas
- ❖ All of the above happen in Rural and Tribal India.
- ❖ What is the Industrial concentration in Rural India?



## Does Higher Education Help in Reducing the Poverty level ? (3)

---

- ❖ Does the Curricula of Indian Universities address the exploitation of these Rural and Tribal Resources?
- ❖ Are there skill development components in the curriculum ?
- ❖ Are there Higher Education Institutions in the Rural areas?
- ❖ Whether the Universities have specially designed academic programs to empower the Rural mass for establishing their own house hold industries using the local Resources and Raw materials?





# Issues of Higher Education

---

- ❖ Inadequate Institutions to provide access to 144.287 million persons in the age group of 18-23 years during 2011-12 for higher education.
- ❖ Uneven Distribution of Institutions among the Urban and Rural areas.
- ❖ Diminishing rate of funding on higher education by the Government year by year in the Govt. Institutions.
- ❖ High cost of Higher Education that limits the poor to access Higher Education,.
- ❖ Inadequate Facilities and Facilities in the Institutions
- ❖ Poor qualities of Teaching and Learning Process



## Issues of Higher Education (1)

---

- ❖ It is an irony in India that the bureaucracy restricts the modernization and expansion of higher education by private players intended to impart quality education.
- ❖ At the same time a large number of institutions without having adequate infrastructure and offering sub-standard education are not only surviving but also flourishing.
- ❖ Not more than 15 percent of graduates of general education and 25-30 percent of Technical Education are fit for employment.





## Issues of Higher Education (2)

---

- ❖ Lack of Skill based curricula in Higher Education.
- ❖ Lack of entrepreneurship based curricula in Higher Education.
- ❖ Lack of Human Values in Higher Education curricula.
- ❖ Lack of Personality Development aspects in Higher Education curricula.



## Policy Issues of Higher Education (3)

---

- ❖ **On the Government's Educational Policy Framework:**
  - (i) Is the policy Framework catering to the diversity of the Indian Education Sector ?
  - (ii) Is the Education Policy Framework conducive to investment in the Sector ?
  - (iii) Do the Education Policies encourage autonomy along with accountability ?
  - (iv) Does the policy Framework encourage PPP model in education initiatives ?



## Quality Issues in Higher Education

---


- ❖ Inadequate infrastructural facilities.
- ❖ Not up to date laboratory equipments and facilities.
- ❖ Inadequate and Inappropriate Teachers.
- ❖ Inadequacy in fixing the minimum requirement criteria for the appointment of Teachers in the Higher Education Institutions.
- ❖ Inadequate use of latest Technology and Pedagogies in the Teaching and Learning Process.
- ❖ Lack of Training Schemes for the Teachers.



# Scientific Research for Economic Development

---

- ❖ Scientific Research in the Universities should be appropriate to the local conditions.
- ❖ Research should provide tools and methods for transforming the Natural Resources of the country into products , useful to the community.
- ❖ India being an Agro based country, with a large area for cultivation, spread over Rural India, University Research should concentrate in developing appropriate Technology for enriching the Rural economy.



# Problems and Issues of Research in the Universities (1)

---

- ❖ Purpose of most of the Ph.D. Research in the Universities and colleges is to obtain Ph.D. degree for getting a teaching job. Hence it is commercialised.
- ❖ To promote Research activities among the teaching faculties in the Universities, it is propagated as to “Publish or Perish.”
- ❖ Because of that, the Researchers Publish, get their degree, but do not produce products.
- ❖ Such research do not benefit the community and thus, they “Publish and Perish.”



## Problems and Issues of Research in the Universities (2)

---

- ❖ Many of the Privately funded Universities offer Ph.D. Research programs with out having qualified Guides.
- ❖ They appoint Professors of State or Central Universities/ IITs as Guides for their full time candidates.
- ❖ In this process a Professor in a State University becomes a Guide to many Private Universities, in the name of External Guide, with no limit on the number of Research scholars to guide.
- ❖ The irony is that they say that it is permitted by UGC.





## Solutions

---

- ❖ To achieve greater Access, justified Equity and Excellent Quality in Higher Education, the Academic Institutions should Encourage Good Institutins with controlled freedom.
- ❖ In the case of such institutions, run without having adequate infrastructure and offering sub-standard education, the Govt. should partner with the management, financially on a true PPP model, and exercise control to regulate A E Q.



## Solutions

---

- ❖ A Faculty Training Board should be set up for training those who prefer to become teaching Faculties.
- ❖ The Minimum qualification for the appointment of Faculties in the Universities and colleges, (A pass in NET/SLET Examination) now in vogue in UGC, do not check for the ability to teach.
- ❖ Candidates trained in the Faculty Training Board only should be appointed as teaching Faculties.
- ❖ Skill based components should be included in all the Under Graduate Curricula.



## Solutions

---

- ❖ University Research should be made product oriented.
- ❖ Even Fundamental research should aim for an ultimate Product development in the subsequent Research efforts.
- ❖ A full time faculty in one Teaching institution should not be permitted as a guide to a scholar registered as a full time candidate in another teaching institution.
- ❖ The total number of Research scholars registered under a guide, including the part time candidates, should not exceed the limit fixed by UGC.



The End

---

Thank You