

A New Normal in Higher & Technical Education in India

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Background



- Society
 - Impact of COVID – 19 situation on all walks of life
- State
 - Education is the main service to be provided for taxes collected by state
 - State facilitates international cooperation between nations for HE
- Academia
 - Large population of cohorts with preference for professional courses
 - Shortage of teaching faculty and staff
 - Poor quality standards by industry standards

New Education Initiative

- Strategy
 - Use of digital technology for conduct of academic activities
- Implementation Issues
 - Availability of connectivity and devices to all students
 - High inertia of teaching faculty – no support available
 - No standardization of any platform
- Immediate Problems
 - How to complete the present academic session and examinations
 - How to start the new academic session for new and old students
 - What are the long terms situations and solutions
 - How to convert the pandemic into an opportunity?



A security guard keeping watch of the academic area from the spiral staircase of the Faculty building, 2007

Photo by Anupam Pal

Society-based Education

- ▶ Honors Code for students and faculty
- ▶ Strict adherence to ethical practices and ethical understanding
- ▶ Training of students in para-administration
- ▶ Training of students in para-police / para-security activities
- ▶ Involvement of students in para-medical activities
- ▶ Training of students in para-legal activities
- ▶ National Cadet Corp
- ▶ National Social Service
- ▶ National Educational Service*
- ▶ National Infrastructure Service*



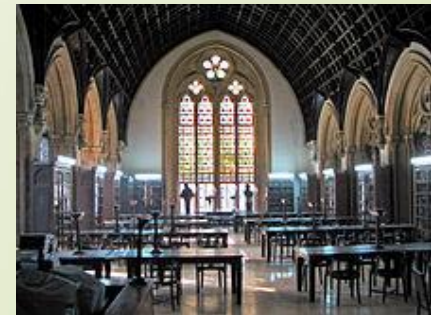
Reforms in Curriculum

- Four Pillars of Education
 - Classics Education
 - Professional Education
 - Society-based Education
 - Personal Education
- Lifelong Education
- 360-degree Education
 - Sports
 - Culture
 - Communication



Pedagogy – Teaching Methodology

- Two classes per week, Three practice-sessions per week
- Synchronous lectures of a champion professor (twice a week)
- Engagement of Academic Associate for practice (thrice a week)
- Individual home work and team home work will be the backbone of academic work
- Explaining the concepts in the class, explaining the home work and showing some illustrative case studies or examples will be the three sessions
- Submission is very IMPORTANT and will carry the maximum weight



Assessment Patterns ...



- Project assessment is based on the work done on a regular basis
- Home work assessment should be a positive feedback mechanism
- Do not declare only PASS or FAIL, give specific suggestions
- Give opportunities for improvement
- Failure is based on not performing even after giving opportunities
- Teachers keep on showing the way forward
- Pass can have two or three grades based on quality of work
- Sound investment of four years paying lifelong dividends!!!

Digital Infrastructure, Lessons for India...

- Higher education on a smart phone is the new concept – Prof M M Pant
- Digital bandwidth on the campus for academic activities
- Class rooms with digital technology for demonstration and discussion.
- Effective use of Learning Management Systems (LMS)
- Effective use of Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP)
- Students are savvy with technology but teachers, administrators?
- Technology for attendance, parent counseling, performance tracking
- Technology for library, laboratory, examinations
- Misuse of technology should be avoided and penalized.



Action Plan for AKTU ...



- Form a team with a team leader / Dean for New Education Initiative
- Start a Training Program of Teachers – Technology, Psychology, Domain-based Project Work
- Start an orientation Program for Students – Ethics, Psychology, Technology
- Launch a massive awareness campaign throughout the university
- Change in affiliated colleges, constituent colleges is massive
- Use of technology with awareness of human mind is necessary
- Provide a technical support service to all